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KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 10, the Musical Play, entitled "THE SUNSHINE GIRL."

That merriest of Gaiety musical comedies, "The Sunshine Girl," is being presented to large audiences at Kennington Theatre this week by Mr. George Dance's excellent company. The play is magnificently dressed and staged, the chorus and orchestration is of the best, and the production provides as entertaining an evening as could well be desired. Every member of the cast seems thoroughly determined to give the best that is possible under the direction of Mr. John Rorke, the stage-manager, with the result that the performance is altogether of a rollicking and festive description. As Flute, the derelict cabby, Mr. Theodore Leonard scores heavily. He gives one of the funniest interpretations of the part that it would be possible to imagine, and in his duets with Marie (Miss Winnifred Volt), "When you ladies get your own sweet way," and with Lord Bicester (Mr. Jack Morrison), "Give us your name and your address," are exceedingly diverting. Mr. Jack Morrison is decidedly clever in his rôle, singing well and fooling smartly. His songs, "You are delightful in the daylight," and "When I am walking out with Josephine," especially the latter, go with tremendous swing. Miss Mysie Devine is pretty and entertaining as Delia Dale, and her vivacious acting wins all hearts. Her principal numbers, "Just a little teenie, tiny touch," and "Just take me for a walk," were sung in fascinating style. Mr. Harry Bentham is very good as Vernon Blundell, and Mr. Percy Catrell makes a distinct hit as Commodore Parker, his comedy being of the bright and breezy order. Miss Jennie Richards is inimitable as Brenda Blacker, and the frolicsome fashion in which she sings "Take me on the boat to Brighton," sends the house into roars. She also contributes to the success of the quartette, "What did the butler see?" with Messrs. Morrison and Leonard and Miss Volt. The latter is a sprightly Marie Silvaine, and in the duet, "A couple of nuts," acquits herself well. Miss Dorothy Cooper is a stately Lady Rosabelle Merrydew, and her voice is heard at its best in "Miss Blush." Miss Mary Leyland is an interesting figure as Emmeline, and her song, "Here's to love and laughter," is appreciatively received. Miss Marion Meynell is distinctly amusing as the Suffragette; but from the point of view of sheer fun it is a long time since anything has been seen in musical comedy at Kennington equal to the political skit, "Who's the boss of the show?" That is as bright as it is original, and to anyone acquainted with the foibles of the statesmen caricatured, the burlesque is irresistible. Artistes who fill smaller parts with credit are Mr. R. Saker and Mr. C. McCann.

"DEADHEADS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It would be of interest to ascertain the origin of the word "deadhead," as applied to one who is allowed to ride in a public conveyance, to attend a theatre or other place of public entertainment, or to obtain any privilege having its public price, without payment.

"Webster's," the "Century," and the "Imperial" dictionaries all put its origin down to colloquial talk in the United States, and an ingenious writer suggests the comparison with the old Danish "dödthoved." Mr. R. J. Broadbent, in "A History of Pantomime," however, takes us to the theatres of ancient Rome for a realistic explanation, where he says:

Persons were instructed to give applause with skill, and there were even masters who professed to teach the art. The proficients in this way let themselves out for hire to the poets, actors, etc., and were so disposed as to support a loud applause. These were called Laudicena. At the end of the play a loud peal of applause was expected, and even asked of the audience either by the chorus, or by the person who spoke last.

The formula was:

"Spectatore Claudite,"
or "Valete et Plaudite."

The applauders were divided into chori, and disposed in theatres opposite to each other, like the choristers in cathedrals, so that there was a kind of concert of applause.

The free admission tickets were small ivory death's heads, and specimens of these are to be seen in the Museum of Naples. From this custom we derive our word "deadhead," denoting one who has a free entrance to places of amusement.—Yours, etc.,

J. LANDFEAR LUCAS,
Spectacle Makers' Company.

Glendora, Hindhead, Surrey,
March 5.

Mr. Gore Ouseley has acquired the entire provincial rights of "Autumn Manœuvres," and is now booking autumn tours of the same. The entire London production will be carried.

Mr. W. W. Kelly will offer that which many people regard as our greatest dramatist's greatest play, "The Gay Lord Quex." Ever since Sir John Hare was first seen in Liverpool in the interesting character which gives the play its title, local theatre-goers have systematically retained their interest in this play. The company next week at Kelly's Theatre has been organised by Mr. Charles Stretton, and includes Miss Ethel Griffies as Sophy, Mr. C. Leveson Lane as Quex. Mr. Charles Harley as the merry philanderer. Sir Chichester Frayne, and Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn. "The Gay Lord Quex" will be played at Kelly's Theatre every evening, except Good Friday. It will also be given at a matinée on Wednesday, the 19th inst. On Good Friday night, commencing at 8 o'clock, a grand sacred concert will be given at Kelly's Theatre, under the direction of Messrs. W. W. Kelly and Sam Vickers. Among the contributors to a splendid programme are Signorina Simonetti, Miss Melville Iredale, Miss Lily Wood, Mr. W. H. Atkinson, Mr. Aubrey Standing, Mr. Harry Brindle, Mr. J. C. Brien and the Wood Quartet. Mr. Herbert Morris will preside at the piano. The Easter week attraction at Kelly's Theatre will be Mr. W. W. Kelly's own company in "A Royal Divorce," its sixtieth week in Liverpool.

In consequence of the magistrates at Stonehouse, Plymouth, declining to grant permission to Mr. Langdon Lee, lessee of the Grand Theatre, to hold a series of concerts on Sundays at the Grand, as reported in last week's "Era," a further application was made to the Bench for permission to open the theatre on Good Friday for a sacred concert, to commence at 7.30. By means of this concert Mr. Langdon Lee hopes to recoup himself somewhat for the expense to which he has been put. Mr. F. Murray, solicitor, represented Mr. Lee, and informed the magistrates that the programme to be submitted would be such as the most rigid Censor could not take exception to. Mr. Langdon Lee, he said, was prepared to submit it to the superintendent of the police or some other person as the magistrates might wish. The bars would be closed, of course, and he could conceive of no reasonable objection to giving the public the opportunity of listening to good music on Good Friday. He hoped their worships would see no objection. The chairman: Until what time? Mr. Lee: From 7.30 to 10 p.m. The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. F. J. McDonald) said the District Council had given permission subject to the bars being closed and no smoking allowed. Asked if he agreed to this, Mr. Lee replied in the affirmative. The application was granted.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

Correspondents are requested to forward their Reports next week for Saturday's "Era" so that they may reach us not later than FIRST POST on WEDNESDAY MORNING.

***ABBREVIATIONS:** In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P. & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A. M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D. (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).*

LONDON.

ADELPHI THEATRE. — Sole P., Messrs. A. and S. Gatti.—This week: Mr. Geo. Edwardes' new production, "The Dancing Mistress," musical play by J. T. Tanner. Lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank. Music by Lionel Monckton. The company includes: Mr. James Blakeley, Mr. F. Pope Stamper, Mr. J. D. Williams, Mr. G. Carlyon, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Miss Gracie Leigh, Mlle. M. Caumont, Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Maid Cressall, Mlle. Gina Palerme, and Miss Gertie Millar. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.

ALDWYCH.—P., Sir Joseph Beecham; G. M., Mr. A. M. Loader.—This week (every evening at 9): Sir Joseph Beecham presents a new comedy in three acts, "Her Side of the House," by Lechmere Worrall and Atté Hall. Cast includes: Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Mr. Harold Deacon, Mr. Philip Anthony, Mr. Alfred Toosé, Miss Dulce Wroughton, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Manora Thew, Miss Joy Chatwyn, Miss Jane Cooper, Miss Helen Green. Preceded at 8.15 by "The Broken String." Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

APOLLO THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. Henry Lowenfeld; Sole L. and M., Mr. Tom B. Davis.—This week: "General John Regan," by George A. Birmingham. The company includes: Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Franc Stoney, Mr. W. G. Fay, Mr. Henry Wenman, Mr. J. R. Tozer, Mr. S. Grenville Darling, Mr. Patrick Quill, Mr. Bernard Crosby, Mr. Edmund Gurney, Mr. A. Vane Tempest, Miss Gladys Ffolliot, Miss Dorothy O'Neill, and Miss Cathleen Nesbitt. Preceded by "A Little Fowl Play." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.45.

BARNARD'S THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.—Licensee, Mr. Samuel Barnard; M., Mr. George Hamilton.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Ida Millais presents "A Dark Secret." The company includes: Mr. George Langdon, Mr. Percy Beresford, Mr. Alfred Wilson, Mr. Henry Herne, Mr. Bartley Payne, Mr. Reg. E. Kendrick, Mr. Wallace Curnock, Mr. Harry Watson, Mr. John Weston, Mr. A. H. Howson, Mr. George May, Mr. Fred Montrose, Miss Amy Ellam, Miss Maggie Stewart, Miss Constance Lauri, and Miss Ida Millais.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.—P., Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks; G. M., Mr. Fred Fredericks; Mus. D., Mr. Ben Barrow.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton present "Everywoman." The company includes: Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Fred Powell, Mr. William P. Sheen, Mr. Henry Leamere, Mr. Mervyn Colomb, Mr. Henry Barrett, Mr. Gerald Henson, Mr. Frank R. Robertson, Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson, Mr. Richard Cowell, Mr. W. Ewart, Mr. Augustus Hammond, Mr. A. J. Cramer, Mr. L. Arthur, Messrs. Bates and Phelps, Miss May Congdon, Miss Daisy England, Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn, Miss Haidee Barry, Miss Helen Oliver, Miss Ruby Vernon, Miss Lena Delphine, Miss Clare Huntley, Miss Margaret Emden, Miss Marie Fontaine, Miss Lily Vine. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Drake."

BRIXTON THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Frederick Melville; A. M., Mr. Newman Maurice.—This week: Mr. Percy Hutchison presents "Brewster's Millions." Matinée, Saturday, March 15, at 2.30. Next week: Mr. Morton Powell's company in "Two Little Vagabonds."

BRITANNIA.—M., Mr. M. Morton Powell.—This week (twice nightly): Will Casey and company in "Her Ruined Life." Cast includes: Frederick F. Lloyd, Frank Irwin, Will Casey, Edward Swinton, Henry Wright, Dicky Bird, W. Fisher, Cecil Roberts, F. Davis, Arthur Wright, H. Hammerton, Edie Tempest, Annie Mitchell, Florrie Kelsey. Next week: "A Thief in the Night."

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS, S.E.—L., Moss' Empires, Ltd.—This week (nightly at 7.45): "The Chocolate Soldier." Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

COMEDY.—Every evening at 9: Mr. Arthur Chudleigh presents "Lady Noggs." The company includes: Mr. Lyston Lyle, Mr. E. Evan Thomas, Mr. Ashton Pearce, Mr. Lewis Fielder, Mr. Kenneth Kent, Mr. Arthur Grenville, Mr. Reyner Barton, Mr. Edgar B. Payne, Miss Mary Glynne, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Hettie Cavendish, Miss May Warley, Miss Margaret Chute. Preceded by "Pride of Regiment." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

CORONET THEATRE, W.—This week (nightly at 8. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30): "Diana of Dobson's." Next week: "Charley's Aunt."

CRITERION. — L. & M., Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore.—Every night, at 9, Eva Moore and H. V. Esmond present "Eliza Comes to Stay," by H. V. Esmond. Preceded by Stacey Aumonier. The company includes: H. V. Esmond, Eric Lewis, Eva Moore, Carlotta Addison. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.—Licensee, Mr. G. O. Starr; B. M., Mr. J. E. Sharpe.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Max Allen presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Cecile E. Anson, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, Miss Margaret Beck. T. M., Mr. Edwin T. Heys. Matinée, Wednesday, at 3.

DALSTON THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr W. R. King.—This week (once nightly): Mr. William Greet presents "The Sign of the Cross." The company includes: Mr. H. St. Barbe West, Mr. Bernard Elliott, Mr. Charles Yorke, Mr. J. Wetherall, Mr. Frank Wood, Mr. Harry Jones, Mr. Phil H. Ellis, Mr. Martin Palmer, Mr. Tom Wetherall, Mr. J. Newman, Mr. H. Roose, Miss Frances Midgley, Mr. Walter Fleet, Mr. Geo. W. Hulme, Mr. R. Chapman, Miss Dorothy Lart, Miss Doris Rene, Miss Barbara Thorne, Miss Dorothy Northam, Miss Betty Beaumise, Miss Mary Pagett, Miss Kitty Arnold, Miss Grace Courtin, Miss Grace Medcalfe, Miss Muriel Noble, Miss Millie Reeve, Miss Florence Bond, Miss Madge Monte. T. M., Mr. W. A. M'Neill. Matinée, Thursday, at 2.30.

DALY'S. — This week: Mr. George Edwardes' production, "Gipsy Love," musical play. English libretto by Basil Hood. Lyrics by Adrian Ross. Music by Franz Lehar. Company includes: Mr. Robert Michaelis, Mr. Harry Dearth, Mr. Webster Millar, Mr. Lauri de Frece, Mr. Fred Kaye, Mr. W. H. Berry, Miss Sari Petrass, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Mabel Russell, Miss Madeline Seymour, Miss Kate Welch. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL. — M. D., Mr. Arthur Collins.—This week (three evenings), 7.30): "The Sleeping Beauty," by Geo. R. Sims, C. H. Bovill, and Arthur Collins.—The company includes: George Graves, Florence Smithson, Will Evans, Wilfred Douthitt, Charles Rock, Barry Lupino, the Poluskis, Irene May, Alice Chartres, and Renée Mayer. Matinée, Wednesday, 1.30 Last performance Wednesday night.

GARRICK THEATRE. — L., Messrs. Arthur Bourchier and Herbert Sleath. — Every evening, 8.45, Mr. Arthur Bourchier presents "Trust the People." The company includes: Herbert Bunston, Kenyon Musgrave, Thomas Weguelin, John McNally, Viva Birkett, Marjorie Waterlow. Preceded by "The General's Glasses." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.20.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. Charles Frohman.—Every evening at 9.30: Weedon Grossmith in "Ask Quesbury." The company includes: Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Edwin H. Wynne, Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. Henry Ford, Mr. Geoffrey Denys, Miss Daisy Thimm, Miss Maud Cressall, Miss Nora Laming, Miss Shelley Calton. Preceded by "How It's Done" at 8.15; and Bertram Wallis and his Musketeers at 8.45. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

HAMMERSMITH LYRIC OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Wentworth Croke; A. M., Mr. P. Howard Sturgess.—This week (once nightly): Harlowe Horland presents "From Portland to Liberty." The company includes: Sidney Humpherys, Bertram Dixon, W. H. De Vere, Paul Atherton, Robt. Hinsdale, George Best, Vincent Dunn, Miss Dorothy Richardson, Miss Ida Thompson, Miss Florence Lovvell, Arthur Wingrave, Almyr Vane, Walter Hamilton, Arthur Byron, Frank Ayrton, George Benson, Charles Enwright, Edward Wynter, Fred Miller, Frank Mackay, Howard Veale. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "The Middleman."

HAYMARKET. — L. & M., Mr. Frederick Harrison.—This week (every evening at 8.30): Frederick Harrison presents "The Pretenders." Company includes: Laurence Irving, Basil Gill, William Haviland, Helen Haye, Madge McIntosh, Tita Brand. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30. (Last week.)

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree.—This week (last performance Wednesday): "Drake." by Louis N. Parker. Produced by Sir Herbert Tree in conjunction with the author. The company includes: Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. Philip Merivale, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Loring Fernie, Mr. Ben Field, Miss Phyllis Neilson Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, and Miss Elenor Foster. Last matinée, Wednesday, at 2.15.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires; L. & M., Mr. Andrew Melville.—This week (once nightly, and Thursday matinée, 2.30): G. Carlton Wallace's production, "A Thief in the Night." Cast includes: Mr. R. Watson, Mr. Ellis Leigh, Mr. Norman B. Cannon, Mr. Hugh Wallace, Mr. Francis James, Mr. Johnny Leoni, Mr. Algie Spalding, Mr. Henry Stanton, Mr. Arthur Moran, Mr. Bert Hedger, Mr. Philip Crossley, Miss Irene Chalmers, Miss Elizabeth Watkins, Miss Josephine Colona, Miss Hetty Graham, Miss Kathleen Arding, Miss May Byron. Next week: "From Portland to Liberty."

KENNINGTON THEATRE. — This week: Every evening at 8: "The Sunshine Girl." Matinée, Thursday, 2.

KING'S, W.—This week: "The Turning Point." Matinée, Thursday, 2.30. Next week: "Two Little Sailor Boys."

LYCEUM.—Every evening, at 7.45: Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville present "Nell Gwynne, the King's Favourite." The company includes: Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. H. Wilmot Jackson, Mr. Fred Ingram, Mr. George Milton, Mr. F. Willing, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. Frank Harvey, Mr. Hal Charlton, Mr. W. T. Smith, Mr. Richard Bode, Miss Maud Elliott, Miss Janet Alexander, Miss Olive Eltone, Miss Kitty Ricimer, Miss Marie Housley, Mr. Fred Morgan, Miss Polly Marsh, Miss Florence Carr, Mr. C. F. Collings, Mr. Austen Milroy, Mr. Fred Elsworthy, Mr. Charles Wingate, Mr. Percy Baverstock, Mr. Raymond Wood, Mr. J. T. Macmillan, Miss Tittell-Brüne. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

LYRIC THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. William Greet; Sole D., Mr. Philip Michael Faraday.—Every evening: Mr. P. M. Faraday presents "The Girl in the Taxi," musical play by Frederick Fenn and Arthur Wimperis. Music by Jean Gilbert. Company includes: Mr. Arthur Playfair, Miss Amy Augarde, Miss Margaret Paton, Mr. Robert Averell, Mr. Louis Goodrich, Miss Violet Graham, Mr. Alec Fraser, Mr. C. H. Workman, Miss Yvonne Arnaud, Miss Cicely Stuckey, Mr. Frederick Volpé, and Mr. George Carroll. Matinées, every Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

MARLBOROUGH.—This week, nightly at 7.45: Julia Neilson in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

MILE END EMPIRE, E.—Harry Bawn presents Joseph Kessler, Mme. Diana Feldman, J. Shearman, and full company in high-class opera and drama. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore.—Mr. Allan Aynesworth's season.—Wednesday, at 7.45, following evenings at 8.30: "Bought and Paid For." The company includes: Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Mr. Frank Craven, Mr. Giro Kim, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Alice Crawford, Miss Sonia Boucard. Matinée, Saturday.

PLAYHOUSE.—This week, every evening at 9: "The Headmaster," comedy, by Wilfred T. Coleby and Edward Knoblauch. The company includes: Mr. Cyril Maude, Miss Margery Maude, Miss Kathleen Jones, Mr. Edward Combermere, Mr. J. Harwood Mr. Charles Bibby, Miss Frances Ivor, Mr. Arthur Curtis, Mr. Jack Hobbs, Mr. Eric Rae, and Mr. Kendrick Huxham. Preceded at 8.20 by "In Haarlem There Dwelt——," a Dutch idyll, with music by Dora Bright. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Frank Curzon.—This week, at 8.30 each evening: Miss Marie Tempest presents a new comedy entitled "The Handful," by William Gordon Edwards. Cast includes: W. Graham Browne, C. J. France, Staff Macdonald, Miss Margaret Bruhling, Mr. John Astley, Horton Cooper, G. C. Browne, George Bellamy, Miss Evelyn Beaumont, Miss Marie Tempest. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

PRINCE'S.—Every evening (7.45): Walter and Frederick Melville present "The Indian Mutiny." The company includes: Mr. C. W. Standing, Mr. F. C. Leister, Mr. Rothbury Evans, Mr. Wilson Blake, Mr. Herbert Williams, Mr. H. Browne, Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Lilian Hallows, Mr. Henry Lonsdale, Mr. Albert Ward, Mr. Philip Hewland, Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Geoffrey Patrick, Mr. H. Elsworthy, Mr. F. Doone, Mr. Bachner, Miss Dora Barton. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30. (Last week.)

QUEEN'S.—This week: "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," farcical comedy by George M. Cohan. Adapted from the stories by George Randolph Chester. The company includes: Mr. Hale Hamilton, Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. Herbert Vyvyan, Mr. Cecil Cameron, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. J. R. Crauford, Mr. Frank Collins, Mr. Eldrett Gulson, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. R. A. Brandon, Mr. Forrester Harvey, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. C. Denier Warren, Mr. Frank Stanmore, Mr. Bryan G. Powley, Miss Madge Fabian, Miss Mary Brough, Miss Elsie Wood, Miss May Leslie Stuart, Miss Simeta Marsden, and Miss Rita Carr. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.15.

ROYALTY.—This week: Messrs. J. E. Vedrenne and Dennis Eadie present "Milestones," by Messrs. Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblauch. The cast includes: Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Stanley Logan, Mr. Lionel Atwill, Mr. Owen Nares, Mr. Reginald Malcolm, Mr. Lemmon Warde, Miss Haidee Wright, Miss Mary Jerrold, Miss Evelyn Weeden, and Miss Gladys Cooper. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Every evening (last week): "Twelfth Night." The company includes: Mr. Arthur Wontner, Mr. Claude King, Mr. Herbert Hewetson, Mr. Douglas Munro, Mr. Cowley Wright, Mr. Frank Conroy, Mr. Arthur Whitby, Mr. Leon Quartermaine, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. H. O. Nicholson, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Leah Bateman Hunter, and Miss Lillah McCarthy. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.

SHAFTESBURY.—Nightly at 8.15: Mr. Robt. Courtneidge's production "Oh! Oh! Delphine!!" The company includes: Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Coningsby Brierley, Mr. Charles Chambier, Mr. Harry Welchman, Miss Winifred Roma, Miss Gwenyth Hughes, Miss Marjorie Compton, Miss Mollie Hanbury, Miss Connie Luttrell, Miss Marjorie Villis, Mr. Walter Passmore, Miss Iris Hoey, Miss Winifred Delvante, Miss Dorothy Jardon, Mr. Fred Lewis, Miss Nan Stuart, Miss Cissie Debenham, Mr. Fred Evison, Mr. Reginlad Owen, and Miss Violet Gould. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.15.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.—This week (twice nightly, matinée, Wednesday, 2.30): "Nell Gwynne."

ST. JAMES'S.—Sole L. & M., Sir George Alexander.—Every evening at 8: A new play, "Open Windows," by A. E. W. Mason. Cast includes: George Alexander, Irene Vanbrugh, Sydney Valentine, A. E. Benedict, E. Vivian Reynolds, Rosalie Toller, Reginald Malcolm, May Whitty.

STRAND.—Every evening: Louis Meyer presents "The Son and Heir," by Gladys Unger. The company includes: Miss Ernita Lascelles, Ethel Dane, Cynthia Brooke, Norman Trevor, Edmund Maurice, Raymond Lauzerte, Reginald Owen, etc. Preceded by "An Interrupted Divorce." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.—P., Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks; G. M., Mr. Fred Fredericks; A. M., Mr. F. W. Davis.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Oswald Cray presents "The Mormon and his Wives." The company includes: Oswald Cray, Clifton Earle, William H. Burton, Ernest A. Duval, Bert H. Reynolds, Harold Stevens, F. Morton Wright, Leonard H. Rooke, Leslie Howard, Chas. A. Chandler, Charles Fields, Great Leap, Fleet Deer, Fearless Fox, Mighty Moon, Sharp Spear, Great Bull, Scalp Hunter, Helen Lowther, Pattie Dene, Aimee Grattan Clyndes, Mamie Reindeer, Sybil Hare. Next week: "Kit Carson."

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, STRAND.—Every evening, at 8.40, Hilda Trevelyan and Edmund Gwenn present "The Schoolmistress," by Arthur Pinero. The company includes: Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Ronald Squire, Master C. Saint-Eve, Mr. Stafford Hilliard, Mr. Walter Westwood, Mr. Archie McCaig, Mr. Douglas Munro, Mr. Oliver G. Johnston, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Gwynne Herbert, Miss Muriel Martin Harvey, Miss Nell Carter, Miss Crissy Bell, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Lilian Mason. Preceded at 8.15 by "A Penny Bunch." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.—This week (nightly at 7.45): Mr. George Edwardes' company present, on Monday, Friday, and Saturday (and Saturday matinée, 2.30), "The Merry Widow"; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (and Thursday matinée, 2.30), "The Dollar Princess."

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE. — P., Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore; under the management of Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Gerald du Maurier.—This week: "Doormats," new comedy, by Hubert Henry Davies. The company includes: Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. Dawson Milward, Miss Nina Boucicault, and Miss Marie Löhr. Preceded by The Quaints. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.

ALHAMBRA.—G. D., Mr. A. Charlot and M. V. Leveaux.—This week (once nightly): "Kill That Fly!" stop-press revue, by George Grossmith. Cast includes; J. F. McArdle, Rene Koval, Hugh E. Wright, Clyde Cooke, Muriel Hudson, Rena Parker, Kitty Mason, and Marjorie Maxwell. Preceded by variety: Six Rag-time Pics; Della Rosa and Marcello; La Petite Sousa; Paul la Croix; and pictures.

BEDFORD PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—R. M., Mr. Geo. A. Higgs; G. M., Mr. Harry Day.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno presents "The Village Sports"; Checkers Von Hampton and Hazel Jossleyn, rag-time artistes; Charles Grantley, comedian; Fred W. Ring and company, in "All Fools' Day"; Little Gladys Le Claire, comedienne and dancer; W. F. Reno and his ragtime cycle; Ethel Entwistle, singer; Colley and Scott, comedy artistes; Brothers Shanks; Gertie de Vere; Harry Rignold and company, in "Fido"; the Four Osmonds, dancers and vocalists; Three Radfords; L'Incognita, mysterious lady vocalist; and pictures.

BRIXTON EMPRESS.—This week (twice nightly): Jessie Millward and company in "The Grey of the Dawn"; Kitty Wager; George Rapley; Fred Poplar; Carrie Laurie Juveniles; Hall and Earle; John Donald; Les Inconnus, musical and vocal act; Hayman and Franklin in "Cohen's Mistake"; and pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Norman Berlin.—This week (twice nightly): A new version of Ragmania, produced by Ernest C. Rolls; Ida Crispi and Fred Farren in whirlwind dances; Walton and Lester in muddled magic; Jack Lane, Yorkshire Rustic; the Three Talents, juvenile trio, in musical scena, "After the Ball"; Chris Baker, purveyor of comedy; Morton and Bowman, "The Purple People," in comedy characters; Rowlands and Ford, Welsh and Scotch comedians; Mollie Seymour, entertainer; John Lawson in "Sally in Our Alley."

CHISWICK EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Kajiyama; Tom Foy; Rinaldo; Three Collegians; Emerald and Dupre; etc.

COLISEUM.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Twice daily: Miss Violet Vanbrugh and company in Act three of "The Woman in the Case," by arrangement with Mr. Louis Meyer; Mme. Lydia Yavorska (Princess Bariatinsky) and company in "Lolotte"; Lorna and Toots Pounds, Australian mimics; Zona Vevey, accompanied by the author-composer, Max Erard; Gobert Belling, presenting the animal arena; James A. Watts the new comedian; Rinaldo, the wandering violinist; Cornalla and Eddie; the Delevines; Harry Moore; and part two of the Panama Canal on the pictures.

COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL.—Co-P., Mr. J. P. Mitchellhill.—Mary Mayfren and Geo. Pickett present "The Big Joss"; Jessie Berg, Russian violinist; Signor Torti, Italian tenor; Donna Rita, comedienne, assisted by Fred Roma, comedian; Herbert Lloyd presents "What a Pal!"; Barney Murphy, comedian; Amy Clevere, vocal comedienne; Arthur Slater, whistler; Colley and Scott, comedy entertainers; Nellie Wallace; Viviana and company in "The Toy Shop"; pictures.

EAST HAM PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): Joe Peterman's company, including Jimmy Learmouth, in "The Station Master"; Scot and Whaley, comedians; Will Nosam; Lily Long; the Four Royal Scots; Harry Levaine; Albert Letine; the Four Braggs; Naughton and Gold, comedians; and pictures.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Harry Bawn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart presents "Alias Jimmy Valentine."

EMPIRE, W.C.—M., Mr. Arthur Aldin.—Every evening at 8: "Everybody's Doing It!" revue, by George Grossmith and C. H. Bovill. Played by Unity More, Ivy St. Helier, Maud Jay, Zoe Gordon, Fred Farren, Will Cromwell, Farren Soutar, Vernon Watson, Robert Hale. Conrad and Whidden in rag-time rhapsodies; De Caruso and Son; the Three Ernests; Scott Russell; Olga Tcharna; Lydia Kyasht in "The Reaper's Dream," a ballet idyll, supported by Phyllis Bedells.

EUSTON.—This week (twice nightly): "The Cat and the Cherub," a story of China Town; Eight Rose Girls in "The Shadow Dance"; Mona Vivian; Millie Payne; Romanoff; Ernest Rees; Huley and Bent; Newco and Gulls; Frank Sylvo; Lievin and Pantzer; the Clark Trio, in vocal novelty; and pictures.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M., Mr. Horace Cole.—This week (twice nightly): J. M. Glover and band; Phil Ray; Brooklyn Comedy Four; Marie Santoi; Roland Brothers; Rhoda Paul; James Stewart; Dale and O'Malley; Kathleen Kay; and pictures.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): George Formby; Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson; Selbit's "Shadow People"; Kara; etc.

HIPPODROME.—Twice daily: "Hullo, Ragtime!" a revue written by Max Pemberton and Albert de Courville. Cast includes: Ethel Levey, Bonita, O. P. Heggie, Shirley Kellogg, Lew Hearn, and Cyril Clensy. George L. Bickle and his comedy band; Ambrose Thorne; Jamieson Dodds; Jack Mason; Willie Solar; Gerald Kirby; Morris Harvey, etc. Also Rich. Taylor, ventriloquist; Carl Lynn, mimic; Fred Conquest in "What a Dog"; Larola, comedy acrobat; and pictures.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver.—This week (twice nightly): The American Rag-time Octette; Clarice Mayne and her pianist; G. H. Elliott; Dave Samuels; Beth Tate; Newhouse and Ward Trio; Fred Earle; Mabel Osborn; Ernie Mayne; the Balaguer Troupe; Chanti; Zella Vondi and company; and pictures. Mr. Charles Gulliver presents Paul J. Rainey's African Hunt, marvellous moving pictures, daily at 3.

KILBURN EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Arthur Roberts and company in "The Girl Who Lost Her Honeymoon"; Miss Beaumont Collins and company in "The Leaves of Memory"; Kate Carney in new songs; Moller's Lilliputians; Tom Leamore; Phil Parsons; Griffin and Ardell; Kitty Clinton; Carl Muller; and pictures.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Charlotte Parry, in her fantasy, "Into the Light"; the Four Yvettes; Sylvester Trio; May Henderson; Poppy Holland; Francesca; Harry Luck; Charles Whittle; and pictures.

LONDON PAVILION.—M., Mr. Frank Glenister.—This week: "Ragmania," by Ernest C. Rolls; Bransby Williams, in "A Review of Revues"; Sam Stern, comedian; the Four Braggs, acrobats; "On the Pier," a musical comedy in brief presented by Leslie Stiles and company, including Kathleen Courtney and Lily Mills; Ben Albert, comedian; Irene Richards, comedienne; Sisters Montague, duettists; Dorothy Vanek, character sketches at the piano; Gilbon's Circus of comical cats; Four Cheries, dancing scena; Flo. Irwin and company in "Mrs. Peckham's Carouse"; Bramusas, musical scene; and Morton and Bowman, comedy duologue.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.—Daily at 3 and 8.: Mr. David Devant in "The Crystals," etc. "A Fallen Idol," by F. Anstey; Hera, juggler; Mr. Stuart Debnam; Mr. Arthur Helmore; etc.

METROPOLITAN.—This week (twice nightly): George Carney presents "Wedgwood Classics"; James A. and Herbert B. Jewel's company in "Change; or, the Haunted Castle"; Daisy Stirling, versatile girl; Chris Baker, purveyor of comedy; Walton and Lester, wizards; Rowlands and Ford, comedians; Dorothy Varick at the piano; Mollie Seymour, entertainer; Elsie Faye, the girl with the acrobatic eyes; Walter Bellonini, juggler; and pictures.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.—This week: Barclay Gammon, the Keppels, Four Amaranths, Great Weiland, Toft and Tate, Bert Terrell, Jack Warman, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Crane, Willette Whittaker, and pictures.

NEW MIDDLESEX, DRURY-LANE.—P., Middlesex Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M., Mr. Harry Garnham.—This week (twice nightly): "Under Two Flags." The company includes: Philip Darien, Bert C. Wynn, Frank Woodville, Ernest Hollway, Will Smith, Edwin Bennett, Brian Daly, Charles Barnard, Arthur Trail Jules Watkins, A. B. Eldon, Sam Walker, Arthur Willis, J. Winslow, Frank Beavor, James Cambell, George Griffin, Arthur Sandy, Gertrude F. Godart, Violet Target, Sybil Etherington, Eva Jones, Heba Barlow. Master Frank Wilson, instrumentalist; Alf. Chester, comedian; Mlle. Lavinia presents Raffin's Flying Trapeze Monkeys. Next week: "My Sweetheart."

OXFORD.—M., Mr. Blyth-Pratt.—Henri de Vries, character actor, in "A Night with Arsène Lupin"; F. C. Tallman, the champion billiard player; Seven Perezoffs in juggling feats; Coakley, Hanvey, and Dunlevy, three minstrel boys from the States; Alexandre and Hughes, eccentric musical sinners; King and Benson, with a jumble of jollities; Syd Walker; Les Inconnus, in musical scena; Ragged Rag-time Gipsy Girls; Four Vagabonds, with ballads; Ariel Smiths, in trapeze act; Fitz-Allen with his pantomime pets; Jack Lane in "Who killed poor rag-time?" and pictures.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt.—Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2: Edmund Payne, George Grossmith, and Mabel Sealby in "Musical Comedy Reminiscences"; That Coloured Five, the Royal Poinciana Quintet; a grand piano and Barclay Gammon; Elida Morris, comedienne; Frank Tinney, black-faced comedian; etc.

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver.—This week (twice nightly): Lotte Sarrow in "She Pays the Penalty"; Clarice Mayne and her pianist; G. H. Elliott, chocolate coloured coon; Fred Emney, supported by Miss Sydney Fairbrother, in "A Sister to Assist 'Er"; Whit Cunliffe, light comedy artist; Williams and Segal, dancers; Jenny and Joe; Three Van Dammes; Lew Lake and company in "The Rib-Nosed Baboon." At matinées only, daily at 2.30, Mr. Matheson Lang, supported by his own company, including Miss Hutin Britton, in "Westward Ho!"

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): George Formby; American Ragtime Octette; Vera Wootton; May Beatty; etc.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): Joe Peterman's company, including Jimmy Learmouth, in "The Station Master"; Harry Randall, comedian; Society Quartet; Frank H. Fox; Mona Vivian; Naughton and Gold; Huley and Bent; Ernest Rees; Rousby's Electrical Show; the Four Kasracs; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—M., Mr. Joseph Wilson.—This week (once nightly and Saturday matinée): Ida Crispi and Fred Farren, in new whirlwind dances; Harry Williams and Nat. D. Ayer, American entertainers; Mike S. Whallen, raconteur; Ragged Ragtime Girls, who play the violin and dance; Coakley, Hanvey, and Dunlevy, in burlesque, "Town Hall Minstrels"; The Courtiers, in musical comedy numbers; Jake Friedman, entertainer; Elsie Faye and company, assisted by Joe Miller and Sam Weston; "Mumming Birds!" by Fred Karno's company; Lily Flexmore; That Boy Pam; Ross and Lewis; Gladys Huxley; and pictures.

TOTTENHAM PALACE.—M., Mr. G. W. Perry.—This week (twice nightly): Alexander's Ragtime Band; King and Benson in "The Messenger Boy's Courtship"; Harry Wenburn, comedy artiste; Harry Marlow, comedian; Nino-Nina, acrobatic dancers; Geo. Ross, pianist, and oneman music hall; Margaret Dempsey and Sister, prima donna; Marie Brayman, vocalist; Doris Hunter; Alexandre and Hughes, musical comedians; pictures.

VICTORIA PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Kitchen and company in "Bungle's Luck"; Marie Lo's Dresden China, living tableau; May Henderson; Archie Glenn; Anna Hana; Austin Rudd; Metz and Metz; Nora Delany; Lena Maitland and company in "Songs in a Farmhouse"; the Milandro Quartet in musical act; and pictures.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Tate in "Motoring"; Edward Morris, latest comedy sketch, "Mum's the Word"; Jenny Castelle, Ben. E. Verity, Fitz-Allen; Harry Levaine; Marie Brayman; Doris Hunter; Sinclair and Whiteford; the Four Royal Scots; and pictures.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Water Spectacle, "Mexico"; Nelson Jackson; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto; etc. Matinée of "Mexico" and company, Thursday, at 2.30.

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. D. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Batt.—First three nights: Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian; Jim E. Power, juvenile comedian; Reg Ewen, light comedian; and pictures. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Messrs. R. Macdonald and T. B. Young's company in "The Dollar Princess." Company includes: Messrs. Chas. Midgley, Norman Bowers, Austin Green, Frank Duirs, Ernest Peirce, Bert Darrell, Huntley Gifford, Donald Gray, Fred Sawyer, John Bernard, Derrick Knowles, Misses Margaret Carter, Iris Beresford, Tina Lincoln, Phyllis Desmond, May Bashbrooke, Dorothy Stafford, Min Goss, Gracie Freeman, Marion Ridding, Margaret Pitts, Marjorie Elliott, Muriel Hynes, and Dorothy King. T. M., Mr. W. A. Seymour.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Wm. Mitchell; Mus. D., Mr. Jules Frascati.—This week: Graham, the human marionette; the Three Rosslyns, in song-scena, "Those Terrible Tomboys"; Little Marie Carpenter, child comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE.—P., Messrs. W. Davies and Co.; M., Mr. Wm. Davies; Mus. D., Mr. C. Stonier Kaye.—This week: Sam Carson, character comed

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

CASTLE PICTURE PALACE.—P., Mr. J. T. Castle; G. M., Mr. John Hy. Downs.; Mus. D., Mr. Gus Palmer.—This week (twice nightly): The Gilberts, in "Pastimes in Camp"; and pictures.

ARBROATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Arthur Dean; Asst. M., Mr. Alex. Melvin.—This week: Phyllis Bray and Partner, in "Melodious Mixtures"; Gladys Raie, mezzo-soprano; Aulga, mimic; Bert Page, comedian; "Eaur Jonty"; Stillwell and Walton, duologists, in "A Printer's Error"; and pictures.

OLYMPIA.—M., Mr. Graham Brown.—Next week: Two Mermaids, aquatic marvels; Monty Macrean, Scotch comedian; Ailsa Douglas, with songs; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; R. M., Mr. Harry Clegg. — This week (twice nightly): The Four Rio Bros., in gymnastic novelty; Bros. Curran, boxing comedians; and pictures.

PAVILION.—P., Hurst Pavilion Co.; R. M., Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly): The Yorkshire Rustics, in comedy; Eden and Howard, harmony duo; Mons. Wilfrid, flexible marvel; Kid Orlando, in "Footology"; and pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls The Strings." The company includes: Mr. David Urquhart, Mr. R. B. Drysdale, Mr. Abie Barker, Mr. Frank Reynor, Mr. Forest Niven, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Josephine Woodward, Miss Elsa Young, Miss Eva Young, and Miss Jean Clyde. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." T. M., Mr. F. C. Pool. Next week: "When London Sleeps."

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Heck. — This week (twice nightly): Barnold's dog and monkey actors in "A Hot Time in Dogville"; Fred Wildon, musical comedian; Bernard, card manipulator; Corman Juveniles, in vocal scena; Bert Williams, ventiloquist; Victor Crawford presents the "Smarties" in dancing act; Matt Morley, comedian; Three Stowe Bros., equilibristes; Anna Dorothy, comedienne.

NEW PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Mr. W. Hy. Broadhead and Son.—This week (twice nightly): "Who Is He?" mimic; Wat Tyler, vocalist; and pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., North of England Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Wilfrid Bryan.—This week (twice nightly): Field and Smart, novel musical speciality act; Mr. Alf Grady, in song, dance, and story; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Matt Raymond; R. M., Mr. Edward King; Mus. D., Mr. Rowland Allen.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Maggie Rimmer, comedienne; Mr. Bryden Currie, comedian, with his trained dog; Bonneti and Corrie, comedy juggling act; Mr. Charles Chaston, dame comedian; the Scarlet Band; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

AYR.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Scottish Electric Picture Palaces, Ltd.; M., Harry W. Day.—This week: Miss Carlotta De Yonsen's company presents "The Great Detective." Company includes: Miss Yonsen, Messrs. C. Douglas Carlyle, Gilbert Lee, Charles A. Caryle, Herbert Daneville, Gerald Blake, and Albert Carlton, Misses Steed and Greene. Next week: Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company.

NEW PAVILION.—L. & M., Mr. Harry J. Bilsborough.—This week: Miss Molly Lindsay and company, in "The Washing House Key"; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic: Miss Dorma Morgan, comedienne; Harry Sims; Three Cunards; Lewys Lloyd; and pictures.

BACUP

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—This week: Six Dapper Sailor Girls, dancers; Tom Hume, comedian; the Mayvelles, in song and dance; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL. — L., Messrs. Glenville and Osmond; R. M., Mr. John H. Clay.—This week: Adler, military illusionist and conjurer; pictures.

BANGOR.

NEW COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. James Hare; M. D., Mr. John Bates.—This week, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Mr. Frank Weathersby presents "The Witness for the Defence"; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the celebrated society play, "The Thief," preceded by "The Call of Duty." The company consists of Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. George Delaforce, Mr. S. P. Goodyer-Kettley, Mr. Chas. F. Lloyd, Mr. Reginald C. Harvey, Miss Daisy Parkinson, Mr. Ernest Cardos. Miss Nellie Metcalf, Miss Elsie Roberts, and Miss Dorrie Roberts. M., Mr. Roland Daniel.

ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. J. Codman; M., Mr. L. Lea.—This week: The Delroys, miniature negro musical comedy speciality; and pictures.

BARNSLEY.

EMPIRE.—P., The Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will Smithson; A. M., Mr. Tom Carrick.—This week: The Kellinos, acrobats; Gilbert Payne; Bell Sylvia, vocalist; Zasma, gymnast; Rosie Pink, comedienne; Orbasany's cockatoos; and pictures.

ROYAL.—P., The Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—This week: Mr. Geo. Dance's company, in "The Waltz Dream." The company includes Mr. J. W. Leyland, Mr. Fred Lyne, Mr. Geo. Burdett, Mr. John R. Val, Mr. Richard Kay, and Mr. R. E. Neville.

BARNSTAPLE.

PICTUREDROME. — P., Bridge Trustees L., Messrs. W. J. Cooke and Harry Tresise.—This week: Lestree comedy juggler; Hans and Greta, chimpanzees; Tom Wheatley, ventriloquist; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. G. D. Poulton.—This week: Alf and Lizzie, comedy couple; Miss Dorothy Dean, the little flower seller; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes" (by arrangement with Miss A. E. F. Horniman). The company includes: Mr. William H. Dewhurst, Miss Beatrice Fielden Kaye, Miss Florence Rutter, Mr. Charles Freeman, Miss Di Forbes, Mr. George Keene, Mr. Frank Howard, Miss Hilda Kenyon, Miss Ida Warrington. T. M., Mr. Frank Howard. Next week: "The Count of Luxembourg."

TIVOLI.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): Mark Sheridan; Vera Hind, chorus singer; Jack and Willie, equilibrists; Bertini, assisted by B'hoy Mike; Juno and Vestas, vocalists and dancers; Bros. Bass, comedians; Kathi Gultini, lady juggler; Keeley Bros., in comedy act

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Illustrated songs and pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson.—This week: Eight Boston Boys and Girls, vocal and dancing act; Charlie Goodman, comedian; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Egbert Lewis; A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long; Mus. D., Mr. G. Alexander.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Mr. Frank H. Crimp, Mr. Fred Monti, Mr. G. McCloskie, Mr. Frederick Horbs, Mr. Henry Adnes, Mr. J. Lennox, Mr. John Duncan, Mr. Glen Owen, Mr. William Greene, Miss Hilda Stuart, Miss Doris Dennis, Miss Ivy Harcourt, Miss Jennie Armstrong, Miss May Marshall, Miss Kitty Develin, Miss Lucille Vivien, Miss Lily Green, Miss Cissie Guiver, Miss Hilda Bellamy, Miss Ida Harvey, and Miss Adela Crispin. T. M., Mr. T. J. Phillips. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: The O'Mara Grand Opera Company.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. W. S. Pearce; Messrs. Wm. Trussell and W. S. Pearce; Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice ...y): Ed. E. Ford and Harry Claff's company ... "Scalped"; Johnny Osborne, comedian; ... Warwick; Chas. Roberts, entertainer at ...o; Three Gilboys, musicians; Harry Claff, ...hite Knight"; pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME. — L., Mr. Charles Draycott; M. D., Mr. James Heggie.—This week: Bleriot's Fairy Fountains; Tom Cullen, the Irish nightingale; Vyo and Clar, in musical speciality; Will Harris, comedian and dancer; Hewson Trio, in a vocal and dancing act; and pictures.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred. W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. George Dance's company opened here on Monday with the sporting play, "The Whip," which met with a great reception. In the rôle of the Earl of Brancaster, Mr. Lawrence Tessier acquitted himself with high distinction; and Mr. William Kershaw skilfully enacted the part of Rev. Vernon Haslam. Miss Mary Thorne furnished a delightful impersonation of Hon. Mrs. Beamish. and Miss Ruth Henton was charming in the extreme as Lady Diana Sartoys. Miss Maisie Stewart deserves a special line for her clever treatment of the rôle of Myrtle Inson and a powerful impersonation of Captain Greville Sartoys was furnished by Mr. J. Gerald Young, who acted with much restraint. A humorous conception of the rôle of Tom Laurbert was furnished by Mr. Charles V. Sandford; and Miss Madge Girdlestone acted with care and sound judgment as Mrs. D'Aquilea. As the sporting Marquis of Beverley, Mr. Ernest Darrell was in every sense capable; and Mr. Eric Hudson's portrait of Joe Kelly was a very realistic one. Mr. Douglas Campbell was good as Harry Anson, and other parts in the long cast were effectively sustained by Misses Sybilla Vane, Marie Greenhouse, Clara Fenn, Jean Royce, Gladys Bell, Nellie Vincent, and Messrs. Bert Threadgift, Frank G. Vyvyan, Dan Thomas, W. Desborough, Percy Rowland. Claude Illingham, &c. Next week: "The Drone," and "Thompson in Tirna-n'og."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred. W. Warden. — The Belfast Dramatic Society are occupying the boards here this week in "The Three Musketeers." Mr. R. H. McCandless appeared with unqualified success as D'Artagnan, his acting being beyond reproach; and Miss Irene Boyd's impersonation of Lady de Winter reflected much credit on her. Mr. T. B. McCandless acted with consummate skill as Boniface, the spy; and the rôle of the Duke of Buckingham was cleverly sustained by Mr. Victor Hawthorne, who also acts as general manager of this society. Other rôles were satisfactorily sustained by Miss Maude Courtney, Miss Emmaline Terry, Miss Evelyn Mackin, Miss May Holmes, Miss Lottie Holmes, and Messrs. W. B. Lindsay, D. B. White (excellent as Cardinal Richelieu), Henry Torrance, Frank Heron, R. J. Smyth, Alexander Rollys, Alexander Kinnaird, J. H. Cunningham, R. Harrison, J. S. Cromie, Jack S. Levine R. H. Smyth, and Ralston Marr. Next week: "The Sorrows of Satan."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—The attraction here this week is "Little Boy Blue," presented by Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Joseph's company. In the title rôle Miss Lena Stanton achieved a notable success, her acting and vocalism being loudly acclaimed; and Mr. Harry Joseph was exceedingly droll as Dame Dickory, his patter being original and quite up to date. Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen was a sweet and vivacious Dolly Dickory, and Mr. Jack Hayman appeared to advantage as Squire Longacre. Mr. Joe Houten was very funny as Saunders; and Little Keeno deserves every praise for his mirth-provoking impresonation of Jack Lively, the Squire's valet, his songs affording much pleasure to many admirers; Miss Lena Joseph made the most of the rôle of Hon. Archie de Vere, and Mr. T. Owen Hunter impersonated Lawyer Coppall. Other parts were adequately presented by The Sisters Delhi, Miss Marjorie Fraser, Miss Mabel Elphinstone, &c. Specialities were provided with much acceptance by the Leola Troupe of acrobatic dancers, the Sisters Delhi, Hayman and Houten, and Vic Verney. The augmented orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Arthur Meredyth.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is the great Arol mystery, described as "The Grecian Temple of Mystery," a really startling act, which undoubtedly bewildered the crowded house on Monday. Mr. Johnson Clark is unquestionably one of the smartest ventriloquists of the age, and a welcome return visit is being paid by Miss Meta Carson and Mr. Peter Donald, their Scotch items being fully appreciated. The Four Merry Messenger Boys delight with their up-to-date songs and eccentric dances, and also billed are Winnie Darrell, comedienne and dancer; Harry Taylor, the popular Lancashire comedian; Four Arconis, in comedy acrobatic act; New Macs, comedians; and the Hipposcope. Next week: Happy Fanny Fields.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler. —The top of the bill here is occupied by the Impromptus, who have been vastly successful with their comedy and harmony. The Three Its, juvenile vocalists and wooden shoe dancers, speedily make themselves favourites, and Miss Raie Walters, a good comedienne, with capital style, is loudly recalled nightly. Also billed here are the Sisters Goodman, duettists and dancers; Knock Simpson, in character studies; Ellina Turner, male impersonator; Julia Rogers, contralto; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE. — G. M., Mr. Will White.—The variety element here is sustained by the Slaters, musical comedians; Will and Nell, in refined and clever act; pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—P., The Entertainment Halls, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Edwin W. Smith; R. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): James Tellis, comedian; and pictures. Children's matinées, Monday, at 3.30. Family matinées, Tuesday to Saturday, at 3 p.m.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Terris Pounds.—This week: Mr. Harry McMerry, eccentric comedian; pictures complete.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; G. M., Mr. John C. Jazon; A. M., Mr. L. T. Mordue.—For the first half of the week the Bilston Amateur Dramatic Society presented "The Times," in aid of the local Nursing Association. For the latter part of the week we have pictures and vaudeville.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: Miss Rena Briton, champion ball-puncher and boxer; and Mr. T. E. Johnson, vocalist.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—This week (once nightly, and Thursday matinée, 2.30): Arthur Hart and Leslie Moreton's company in "The Arcadians." Cast includes: Mr. Horace Nye, Miss Minnie Rayner, Miss L. Crawford, Miss Gladys Gill, Miss Jean Leslie, Miss J. Davies, Miss Laura Laughton, Miss Isabel Butler, Miss Billie Brame, Miss Ettie Critchley, Mr. Paul Jackson, Miss Mabel Funstan, Mr. Alf. Selby, Mr. Edward Jefferson, Mr. Walter Elagert, Mr. Lauri Aster, Mr. Hugh Lyndhurst, Mr. George Dinnis, Mr. G. B. White, Mr. Claud Lawson, Mr. Jack Parson, Miss Alma White, Mr. Jack Page, Mr. Leonard Slater. Next week: "Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; R. M., Mr. Frank Weston; Mus. D., Mr. R. Tomlinson. —This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, "Mid Pleasure and Palaces." Company includes: Mr. Edward E. Louis, Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle, Mr. Horace A. Whitmee, Mr. W. Palliser Acock, Mr. Fred Frank, Mr. Ned Sutcliffe, Mr. Geo. Buckley, Mr. Harry Presoner, Mr. C. Watson Mill, Mr. Villiers Stanley, Mr. Richard Oliver, Miss Joan Ellis, Miss Myra Leyton, Miss Edith Gregory, and Miss Ethel Dobbs. T. M., Mr. W. Palliser Acock.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Denney.—This week: Jack and Evelyn, vaudeville entertainers; Lloyd Morgan, comedian; Miss Marjorie Remington and troupe of Picaninnies; Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian; Tom and Neil, variety entertainers; My Esta Stella, military maid; the Brothers Hannaway; Gus Hindell, monologist; Miss Stella Stahl, comedienne; and pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr. F. Smith. —The second week of "Gipsy Love" has proved a source of unalloyed delight to Birmingham theatre-goers.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnston.—"Fanny's First Play" is proving highly diverting and entertaining here this week. Miss Kate Bishop is very good as Mrs. Gilbey, and Miss Cicely Hamilton gives an impressive study of Mrs. Knox. Dora Delaney is vivaciously interpreted by Miss Mabel Garden, and Miss Phyllis Relph is a spirited Margaret Knox. Mr. H. K. Ayliff gives a capital study of the ducal Juggins.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—"Robinson Crusoe" still continues to attract crowded houses, and "House full" promises to be the rule right up to the end of the run.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—Mr Geo. Edwardes' company in "The Merry Widow" is proving very popular. Miss Grace Wilson is all that could be desired in the title-rôle, and others prominent are Miss Cecil Hayden and Messrs. Alfred Beers, Adrian Beaumont, and Robert Needham.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—D., Mr. Barry V. Jackson; G. M., Mr. John Drinkwater.—"Candida" is being continued for another week here. Miss Jean Stirling Mackinlay appeared at a flying matinée last Saturday, ably assisted by Mr. Harcourt Williams.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Derwent Hall Caine presents "The Bondsman." The cast includes: Messrs. Millar Anderson, Leslie Hamar, Arthur Oliver, Gerald Nolan David MacFarlane, Nicholas Fitzroy, Henry Arley, Herbert Mills, E. Bragg, Tom Fuller, and Misses Dora Evans, Constance Lamming, Beatrice Humber, Mary Clement, and Esme Lee.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. P. Whitton.—A very clever entertainment, in which Mr. Vivian Foster effectively caricatures a country vicar, is presented by the Grotesques; Capt. Fred Woodward's seals give their usual interesting performance; Daisy Dormer sings three songs in her daintiest manner; an exhibition of hand-balancing with a touch of the sensational is given by the Wille Brothers; Russell Brandow is a clever dancer; Talbot and Pearce present a good musical comedy in which Irish songs are prominent; Donal McDougal is a smart Scotch comedian; and Bert Byrne and lady have a smart skit, "On Blackpool Pier."

GRAND.—P Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Asst. M., Mr. H. F. Coward.—A delightful change from the usual music hall programme is furnished by the Palladium Minstrels. Chorus, song, dance and jest follow one another in rapid succession, there is some excellent banjo playing, and two good sketches are given. Songs are rendered in approved fashion by Wally Scott, J. Gould, Ernest Pitt, Cecil Bray, Douglas St. Clair, Will Haines, Uncle Mack, and Master Flowers.

HIPPODROME.—P., New Birmingham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—A very laughable farce, "The New Physician," is given by Conroy and Le Maine, two black-faced comedians; Cinquevalli is as popular as ever with his balancing tricks; Bellew and Stock's The Romps give an entertaining vaudeville mixture; Gaby Revette and company present a charming series of art studies; Alfredo is a clever violinist; excellent caricatures of "types of beauty" are drawn, with appropriate remarks, by Ernest H. Mills; S. W. Wyndham causes much amusement with his vocal effects; Alice Venning has a sweet voice; and Walter Williams is a smart light comedian.

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—A clever dramatic sketch of sustained interest is "The Ace of Hearts," presented by James Willard; a remarkable conjuring performance is given by Gus Fowler, the watch king; a clever equilibristic exhibition is provided by Denaro Brothers; Three Golliwogs have a pleasing vocal speciality; Beale and Broadway dance and sing well; Lena Bluette has a good voice; and good comedy numbers are presented by the Mayvilles and G. E. Walker.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—May Moore Duprez was unable to appear, but an able substitute was found in Lottie Bellman and Sam Poluski, who scored a triumph with their vaudeville tit-bits; the Five Petleys are capital comedy trampolinists; the Three Musical Boldens give a pleasing musical item; Josie Delaine sings and dances gracefully; "Pete, the Sheriff." a sketch of Western interest, is capitally presented by Buck, Baker and Company; the Two Countees are clever duettists; and Arthur Carlton is a smart dame comedian.

NEW PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Gee Anthony.—This week (twice nightly): Fields and Lewis, burlesque artistes; Charley Drew, comedian; Gracie Bard, comedienne; and pictures.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. F. Steels. —This week: Mr. Will H. Glaze and company in "No Mother to Guide Her." Cast includes: Messrs. George Gormley, Huntley Gordon, Leonard Clake, H. Ryeland Leigh, Will Glaze, Tom Beasley, and Misses Roma Pendrous, Georgie De Lara, and Betty Seymour.

HIPPODROME.—L., The Standard Electric Theatre, Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. Frank W. Ogden Smith; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—This week: Variety and pictures.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Harry Lyons.—Closed for rebuilding.

PRINCE'S.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Page; A. M., Mr. John Ersser; Asst. M., Mr. Albert Hargreaves; M. D., Mr. W. Haydock.—This week: Mr. Harry Russell's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. Harry Russell, Miss Marie Stockdale, Miss Verna Reed, Miss Madge Allen, Mr. Fred Young, Miss Jesse Jess, Miss Barbara Murray, Mr. Colin Bryce, the Sisters Leighton, the Four Rainbow Girls, and the Leibigs.

PALACE.—Principal M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton; M. D., Mr. J. W. Sykes.—This week: Beattie and Babs; Callen and Emery, in "The Bootblack and the Skivvy"; Abel and Welsh, eccentric acrobats; Lytton and De Silva, duettists; the three Royal Matsuis, jugglers; the Arthur Gallimore Trio; and pictures.

STAR.—M. D., Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—This week: Pictures, and the Two Royal Avenas.

CENTRAL HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Bradley. —This week: Pictures; and Butt and Ward.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—L., The Dowry Picture Co.—This week: Pictures; Wilfred St. Clair, boy actor; and the Pagganninis, violinists.

VICTORIA HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Charnley.—This week: Pictures; George St. Helier, vocalist; and Frank Sley.

EXCHANGE HALL.—L. & M. D., Messrs. Riding, Ilkrdcastle, and Rawlinson; A. M., Mr. Kerrigan.—This week: Pictures, and the Bohemians.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackay and company in "Wearin' o' the Green," Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday; "Rollicking Rory," Wednesday and Thursday; "The Colleen Bawn," Friday. Company includes: Mr. Chalmers Mackay, Mr. J. P. McBride, Mr. Charles M. Julian, Mr. Fred Charles, Mr. Frank Dalton, Mr. Dennis Mackey, Mr. J. Neville, Mr. Joseph Healy, Mr. Conn Mackey, Mr. J. Byrne, Miss Amy Manfree, Miss Nora Desmond, Miss Desborough, Miss Maud Lillian, Miss Jeanette Lyons, Mrs. Chalmers Mackey. Next week: "Princess Caprice."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank H. Jepson. —This week (once nightly): Carter's Ten Dixie Girls, in "The Silver Coon"; Downs and Langford, comedians; L. W. Scott, comedian and dancer; the Westbrooks in dancing scena; Chas. Denman, comedian and dancer; Lavail and Bobine, gymnasts; Austen Temple, magician; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BOGNOR.

KURSAAL THEATRE.—P., Mr. Wm. Tate; M., Mr. Harold Reading.—This week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and Saturday matinée): Mr. Alick Chumley and Mr. A. Russell-Davis present "Sweet and Twenty" and "His Excellency the Governor." The company includes: Miss Judith Kyrle, Miss Molly Malim, Miss Evelyn Shelley, Miss Betty Sabine, Mr. R. M. Dalzell, Mr. P. Hunt-Lewis, Mr. Frank Hughes, Mr. Claude Carnforth, Mr. G. Forrest Vallance, Mr. Alick Chumley, and Mr. A. Russell-Davis.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Ellis-ton; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Alfred Gray presents "The Amazons." The company includes: Mr. F. B. J. Sharp, Mr. Alfred Gray, Mr. Campbell Gargill, Mr. Laurence Meade, Mr. Eric Bass, Mr. Amyas Hardy, Mr. James Clifford, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Irene Clarke, Miss V. Malcolm-Barnett, Miss Muriel Locking. T. M., Mr. C. T. Chapman. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Milestones."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Charles W. and John R. Poole present "The Loss of the Titanic"; William McNally, dulcimer soloist; Fred S. Peake and Dora Davis in "The Swashbuckler"; C. Torbay, comedian; W. Paskin presents the Eight Frolics; Karl and Eddie in music and comedy; Lily Leonard, soprano; Jack Pleasants, comedian; pictures. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome, Bolton, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward presents "A Lad's Love." The company includes: Herbert Vere, Alec Wilson-Wynne, John Blake, H. Kenneth Barton, Percy Shaw, F. Thorpe Tracey, Percy Godfrey, George Walkley, Frederick Barrett, George S. Blount, Roland Ivan, Eily O'Dempsy, Muriel Marsden, Lillian Lovell, Emmie Barton, Lilian Earle. T. M., Mr. Percy Shaw. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE.—P., Pennington Estate Co. Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington.—This week: (once nightly, and matinée Wednesday, 2.30): H. Montague Ashley and Campbell Goldsmid present Henry Seton Merriman's play, "With Edged Tools." Cast includes: Charles Hartopp, Fred Emery, Murray Yorke, Max Copland, Alfred Conway, George Brough, Campell Goldsmid, Patty Groves, Muriel Haydn, Edith Anton-Lang. Maud Morton Powell. T. M., Mr. H. Montague Ashley. Next week: "A Queen for a Wife."

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Lonsdale.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "Autumn Manœuvres." T. M., Mr. L. Edwards. The company includes: Huntley Wright, J. Gordon James, Harry Johnstone, Ivan Clark, Oswald Lingard, O. Ronald, John Valentine, Hugh Allen, Sam Welsh, W. V. White, George Garnett, Owen Thomas, May Rawlinson, Bertie Adams, Pat Berry, Yvonne Beaumont, Gwen Connington, Nesta Allen, Violetta Bruce, Florence Fowler, Beatrice Willey. Matinée, Saturday, 2.45. Next week: "The Headmaster."

WINTER GARDENS.—G. M. & Mus. D., Mr. Dan Godfrey.—This week: Monday, at 3, "Pop" Slavonic programme; Monday evening, classical concert; Tuesday afternoon, overtures; Tuesday evening, special programme; Wednesday evening, popular programme; Thursday afternoon, symphony concert; Thursday evening, classical concert; Friday afternoon, fourth university extension lecture; Friday evening, classical concert; and Saturday evening, popular valses.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's company holds the boards here with "The Chocolate Soldier." Mr. Charles R. Walenn gives a most diverting performance of Lieut. Bumerli; Miss Margaret Ismay is a vivacious Nadina, and her vocalism is charming; Miss May Clarke as Aurelia and Miss May Tomlinson as Mascha display much levity and humour in their respective parts; the mock heroism of Alexius Spiridoff is humorously depicted by Mr. Frederick Leigh; and Casimir Popoff is very funny as played by Mr. Arthur Reynoulds. There is a full chorus and an augmented orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Alfred C. Reynolds.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley. —As an experiment Mr. Laidler has for this week transformed the theatre into a variety hall on the two-houses-a-night system, and he has provided a variety entertainment which in the main savours strongly of pantomime, for we have a repetition of the delightful turns by the children of his recent "Cinderella" pantomime; dancing by the charming Eight Montrose Girls, from his Leeds pantomime; a screamingly funny turn by Clark's Crazy Comedy Cyclists; and an amusing performance by Chris Rapier (the Cat), also from the same source; and a turn by Mr. Will Ambro, who reproduced some humorous dialogue as a pantomime dame. In addition Abel and Wyn amused with a comedy act, "Selling a Dog"; the O'Mahonys rendered with much taste some old-time songs and melodies; Bell and Butt entertained the audience with some humorous "patter"; Jack G. McLallen and May Carson gave a fine performance in roller skating and dancing; and "the star turn," a comedy sketch (of which a notice appears elsewhere), was produced successfully.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—"Arms and the Girl," the charming little work by Mr. Austen Hurgon, with music by Mr. Richard Fall, and stage mounting of the best, is presented here this week with conspicuous success. The Craggs Troupe of acrobats are on a return visit, clever, graceful, and humorous as ever; with humour and funny "patter" Stacey and Williams, the comedians, keep the audience in continuous laughter; Louie Tracey is a clever comedienne, and her "Army Recruit" is excellent. Other turns which are of special note are by the Whittakers in a burlesque, "Dick Whittington"; Luis Alvarez, a fine tenor vocalist; Fred Lincoln, comedian; and the pictures.

PALACE.—L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The Schwarz company reappear in their comedy and illusion, "The Broken Mirror," with their usual success: "Languid Energy" aptly describes the clever acrobatic act by the Three Brothers Huxter; Gillin, the ventriloquist, provides a distinct novelty with his walking figures; John Child, the tenor vocalist, sings finely; and the contributions by Kittie Douglas, comedienne; the De Mayos, comediennes and ragtime dancers; Conquelli, "society mimic"; and the pictures make up an enjoyable evening's amusement.

BRIERLEY HILL.

QUEEN'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. C. Cooper.—This week: Les Bon-Bons, novelty instrumentalists; Fielding and Hull, entertainers, in song and story; Poole's perfect pictures.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Messrs. Wolseley Charles and Louis Rihll's production, "Nicely, Thanks!" is proving highly attractive here this week. The entertainment, bright and exhilarating, evokes enthusiastic applause and the heartiest of laughter. The programme is sustained by Messrs. Herbert Burney, Jackson Potter, Mason Wood, Wolseley Charles, Leslie Henson, Louis Rihill, Patrick Thayer, and Leo Darnton, and Misses Dora Dolaro, Betty Hyde, Cynthia Cooper, Pattie O'Hanlan, and Joan Ritz. The company are especially effective in the burlesque oratorio, "Nursery Rhymes." The accompaniments are artistically given on the double Grand pianoforte by Messrs. Wolseley, Charles, and Patrick Thayer.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is here this week with "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which is admirably staged and mounted. Mr. J. H. Boehm submits a realistic character study as Uncle Tom; Miss Ethel Masterson is distinctly effective as Little Eva; and other important characters have able exponents in Mr. Raymond Wallace, Mr. Bertram Howard, Mr. Percival Young, Mr. Edward Leroy, Mr. H. Jenkins, Mr. A. Aston Roe, Miss Hero Hathaway, Miss Blanche Leroy, Miss E. Stuart-Graham, Miss Annie Watson, and Miss Lizzie Allen.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week:—George Robey, who is as popular as ever; the Zigeuner Quartet of musicians; Russell Carr, ventriloquist; Radford and Valentine in a comedy act; Horace Horner, dancer; La Superbe, dancer; Potts and company in the farce, "A Double's Trouble"; and Lilian Carter, vocalist.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey. —"Phyl" was produced here on Monday, and is fully noticed in another column.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are giving excellent performances here of "The Lion and the Mouse." Mr. Ernest E. Norris submits a fine enactment of John Burkett Ryder; Miss Ray Parry merits unstinted praise for her charming and powerfully convincing impersonation of Shirley Rossmore; Mr. Arthur Wilson imparts great feeling to his embodiment of James Rossmore; Mr. Chris Melling makes an earnest Jefferson Ryder; and other characters are ably portrayed by Mr. Edwin A. Wheeler, Mr. Jack Helier, Miss Agnes Brucesmith, Miss Viola March, Miss Mary Kingston, Miss Marjorie Clutterbuck, and Mr.

comedienne; David Keir and Alice Fairlamb in singing act; Ernest Krake and company in "The Electric Tram Conductor"; and pictures.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: Fox and Melville, picture song artists; Alpho, ventriloquist; and pictures.

BUXTON.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley in songs and sketches; the Corona-Gatty Trio in musical specialities; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday.

CAMBRIDGE.

EMPIRE.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): Freda Waring, comedienne; the Balmorals, vocal and instrumental entertainers; Chas. Gardener, comedian; Max and Mozelle; and pictures.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Ambrose Mabbett.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Saturday, at 2): Mr. George Dance's company in "Ben-Hur." Cast includes: Horace Ferley, Charles Smythe, Philip Desborough, Hatton Sinclair, Edward Valentine, Douglas Vigors, Cecil Tressilian, Walter Underwood, Vivian Harbord, O. Waller, Robert James, Charles Maverne, Eric Vane, Francis King, Jack Glyn, Fred Vernon, Arthur Walter, Edith Blande, Mildred Cottell, Eva Rowland, Elizabeth Watson, and Eileen Atherley. M., Mr. Bert Womack.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (twice nightly): The Theatre Royal Stock Company presents "Her Wedding Day." The company includes: Mr. F. Leo Charlton, Mr. Walter Domony, Mr. Willy Barrett, Mr. Fred Acton, Mr. Victor V. Norreys, Mr. Albert Jones, Mr. Norman Chantry, Mr. Herbert Lalor, Mr. T. Massey, Mr. David Allen, Miss Lydia Donovan, Miss Lillian Fenn, Miss May Maurice, Miss Amy Stanton, and Miss Lallah Davis. Next week: "A Country Girl in London."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M.D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): George Mozart, in his latest sketches; Morny Cash; Griffiths and Carmen, comedy artistes; Little Ganty, comedian; Sisters Finney, the water nymphs; Juggling Nelson; Thora, ventriloquist; Dora Lyric, comedienne; Real McKays, juvenile artistes; and pictures.

CARLISLE.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Molly Wells, singer, and her composer, Frank Mayban; Bros. Bernhart; Marie Blythe, contralto; the Five Tritons; Jack Stocks, comedian; Les Yosts, clay modellers; Du Gros Trio, gymnasts; Ruthie Vollmer, Scotch comedienne and dancer; Frank Powell, character comedian; pictures

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Mr. Harry Masterman.—This week (once nightly): J. W. Turner Opera Company present "Maritana" (Monday), "Cavalleria Rusticana," preceded by "Daughter of the Regiment" (Tuesday), "Il Trovatore" (Wednesday), "Faust" (Thursday), "Don Giovanni" (Friday), "Bohemian Girl" (Saturday). Company includes: Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Tom Griffiths, Mr. John Kelly, Mr. C. Leverton, Mr. A. Fisher, Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Beatrice Hill, Miss Sara Williams.

QUEEN'S.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Beanland and Emerson.—This week (once nightly and picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 3): The Four Minims, vocal comedy quartette; Ray and Zack, in a "Tramp's Trip"; and pictures.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; A. M., Mr. Lionel Barnard; Mus. D., Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. J. Millane present "A White Slave." The company includes: Mr. John Millward, Mr. J. O. Stewart, Mr. Edwin Maydew, Mr. Geo. Porteous, Mr. Oliver Seymour, Mr. W. Passmore, Mr. Oswald Peters, Mr. A. Williams, Mr. Arthur Ross, Mr. Frank Evans, Mr. James Revill, Mr. John Miller, Mr. Fred James, Mr. Ernest Dutton, Mr. William Walsh, Miss Olga Jefferson, Miss V. St. Lawrence, and Miss Mabel Rose. T. M., Mr. E. Tetley. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE.—Joint M. D., Messrs. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville. — This week (twice nightly): Gertie Gitana; Queenie Leighton, principal boy; Gintaro, top spinner and juggler; Charles Stevens, comedian; the Four Elles, Viennese dancers; Two Tomboys; Zaleski, the golden spider; and pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Herbert Sleath presents "The Third Degree." The company includes: R. F. Symons, George Barte, Percy Settle, J. C. Williams, A. Trevor-Lloyd, Gerald Valentine. Pat Lynch, dancer; Amy Caley, comedienne and dancer; Hampton and Bauman; the Leotard Bros., clowns; Bros. Brooks, comedians and dancers; the Great Salores; pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: The Imperial Russian Ballet, in Covent Garden répertoire. The company includes: M. Kosloff and Mlle. Lunina, M. Tiradzin, M. Mendelvitch, Mlle. Muninora, M. Svereef, Mlle. Blanchetta, M. Lauschmann, M. Moroskoff, Mlle. Michina, M. Dimitreff, Mlle. Faitlova, Mlle. Cortnova, Mlle. Michinia, M. Schottow, M. Marinin, M. Weseloff, M. Montagin, Mlle. Gladina, Mlle. Hamilton, Mlle. Farmarowa, Mlle. Silverson, Mlle. Elsina, Mlle. Almar, Mlle. Roseva, Mlle. Helens, Mlle. Fuller, and MM. Besedin, Ivanoff, Sadin, Levoff, Walters, Garin, Tiradjin, and Alderow.

WINTER GARDEN PICTURE HOUSE.—M., Mr. E. W. Carlton.—This week: Victoria Dagmar, comedy bar act; Dayson Bros., dancing speciality; and pictures.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton. — This week: Three Rollingers, comedy rag-painters; Harry Halsey, laugh manufacturer; and pictures.

SHENTON'S PICTURE PALACE, TEWKESBURY.—M., Mr. Noel B. Shenton.—This week: Jack G. Silvano, comedy rag-time cyclist; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—This week (twice nightly): The Three Hodginis, in "On the Sands at Trouville"; Victor Courtney at the piano; Ted Young, comedian; Harry Morris, animal impersonator; Coates and Parish, in "The Soldier's Return"; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodromes, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson; Mus. D., Mr. Bertram Brennan.—This week (twice nightly): Bert Grapho's company in "Village Nuts"; Norman and Allen pattering postmen; James Dixon, baritone; Brothers Idento, juggling pantomimists; Stanley Thorn, comedian; Layton and Douglas, character instrumental soloists; Jack Egan and his Oo-la Girls, in drawing-room act; and pictures.

CLYDEBANK.

THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; B. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; R. M., Mr. Geo. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Jules Kiaro, equilibrist; Bros Gordon, buck dancers; Stave, the cannibal king; Sisters Mack, duettists; the Owens, in scena, "Gipsy Life"; and pictures.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Jack Arnold's company in "Aladdin." Cast includes: Gertie Gordon, Dan Dunville, Bert Grundon, Mamie May, George Thomas, Maudie Coates, Marie Dale, Daisy Forrester, Scott Glenn, Western Brothers, Bobbie Graham.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. C. Turner Hallett.—This week (twice nightly): Archie Campbell, comedian; Pedro Pescador and his equilibristic dog; Sam Bushford, Hebrew comedian; Fred Evans, in a "Dream of Oliver Twist"; Nellie Bly, comedienne and dancer; Little Rosie, juvenile entertainer; Geo. Carney, in "The Fool of the Force"; and pictures.

CONSETT.

NEW TOWN HALL.—This week (twice nightly): Enzer Trio, jugglers; James Stockton, vocalist; and pictures.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—L., Messrs. Smart and Todd.—This week (twice nightly): Packley and Albert, equilibrists; Sisters Beaumont, duettists; and pictures.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—This week (once nightly and matinée Monday next (17), 2).—The O'Brien and Ireland Repertory Co. present "Lord Edward; or, '98" (Monday, 10), "King of Crime" (Tuesday), "Peril of Sheila" (Wednesday), "Robert Emmet" (Thursday), "Colleen Bawn" (Friday), "Sentenced to Death" (Saturday), "The Irishman" (twice on Monday (17th), at 2 and 8).

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week: Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "The Whip." The company includes: Messrs. Bert Golday, Jack Lennol, Frank Powell, Ernest James, Geo. P. Polson, Frank Henry, H. Campbell, Dennis Renton, L. J. Lawrence, Arthur Nicholas, Robt. Shenford, J. Austin, Robt. H. Nash, F. Elkington, and Henry Walker, Misses Naomi Neilson, Barbara Allen, Violet Roberts, Julie Kennard, Violet Linsay, Louie Brett, Edna Earle, Agnes Hewett, Mabel Milne, and Ethel Wylie.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: Henri De Vries and company; Briff, Braff, and Broff; Stewart and Alexandra; Lil Sprightly; Dusty Rhodes; Two Lillys; Ross and Grace; and Harold Baker.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond present "The Still Alarm." The company includes: Mr. Vernon Fortesque, Mr. Geo. Gaisford, Mr. Edward Hobart, Mr. Richard Hutton, Mr. Vincent Harvey, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. George Organ, Mr. Bernard Ince, Mr. Henry Smith, Mr. Jack Topping, Mr. William Edwards, Mr. Eddie Tudor, Mr. Harry Johnson, Mr. Tom Varney, Mr. George Francis, Miss Mabel Veriton, Miss Dorothy Hildebrande, Miss Margaret Frame. T. M., Mr. Richard Hutton. Next week: "The Exploits of Parker, P.C."

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; R. M., Mr. George Burton.—Twice nightly Mondays and Wednesdays, and once nightly the rest of week: Fred Archer, comedian; John Lord, musical collier; Bombardier Morris, vocalist; Kemp and Kemp, burlesque comedians; and pictures.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Arthur Vasey and Co.; M., Mr. Tom Fyall.—This week (once nightly): Miss Louie Adair's company in "A Mother's Love." The cast includes: Miss Louie Adair, Tiny Hetty, Miss Winifred Acton, Miss Edith Kirke, Conrad E. Stratford, Wilfred Mansfield, Walter T. Hybert, Ernest Hamilton, Gerton Ashard, Andrew Moore, Frank Adair.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Messrs. Dick Adams and Ernest Archer; T., Mr. Ernest Archer.—This week (once nightly): Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona and company in "Fanny's First Play." Cast includes: T. Connor, Ernest H. Paterson, Algernon Syms, Olive Baxter, Richard Green, F. Payne Palmer, L. Herbert, Keith F. Graham, Lionel Rignold, Adelaide Prace, Frank G. Bayly, Nellie Hodson, Charles Macdona, Marie Rignold, Ethel O'Shea, Gilbert Ritchie, L. Sealy, jun. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "Little Miss Llewelyn."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Alfred Powley; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Jesse G. Levy's répertoire company in "Snore and You Sleep Alone," "Striking Home," "Cupid Unlimited," "The Medium," "French Leave," and "Seven Blind Men." The company includes: Roland Pertwee, C. A. Wenlock Brown, Chas. A. White, T. Alan Stevenson, Frederick James, Lancelot Lowder, Philip Durham, W. Abingdon, Hampton Gordon, Mary Ross Shore, Sidney T. Pease, Lucy Sibley, and La Rubia. Next week: The Palladium Minstrels.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): Elsie Malpass, Syd Walker, the Three Rascals, Foreman and Fannan, Charles Whittle, Jock McKay, the Motramos, Blake and Granby, Charles Merry, Renee Grahame, Joe Collins's company in "Fun in a Dormitory," and pictures.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Loie Esmond and company. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, "The Sorrows of Satan"; Thursday, "Nana"; Friday, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." The company includes: Mr. J. Wilkes, Mr. J. le Fleming, Mr. Medcalfe, Miss Alice Oliver Miss Loie Esmond, Miss Cecily Byrne, Miss Rita Morville, Miss Rosie Neville-Banwell, Mr. Edward Neville, Mr. Sydney Andrews, Mr. Harold Duncan, Mr. Oscar Wyatt, Mr. A. Jarvis, Mr. H. Flint, Mr. B. Ferry.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." The company includes: Sam Wilkinson, Frederick Meads, F. Clive Ross, Tom Tindall, Carl W. Lindsey, Reginald Maurice, Frank W. Ward, Maurice Winter, Ernest Gray, Esther Whitehouse, Rhoda Beresford, Laurie Flockton, Ethel Percival. Preceded by "An Interrupted Divorce." T. M., Mr. F. Clive Ross. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thos. Baker.—This week (twice nightly): Florrie Gallimore, comedienne; Field and Mansell, lightning artistes and jugglers; Wee Bertie Burton, comedian; Two Brilliants, zylophonists; Joan Deering, the Gainsborough girl; Gerola Troupe of acrobats; George Hyam, comedian; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Musical Middies, concertina duettists; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Violet Jeans, singer and dancer; Walt. Walmsley, patter comedian; and pictures.

DENTON.

EMPIRE.—P. and M., Mr. A. Ward, F.R.G.S.; M. D., Mr. W. E. Marsden.—This week (once nightly and matinée Saturday): Beulah Brayne, lady baritone vocalist; and pictures.

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DERBY.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. C. Denley; A. M., Mr. J. B. Torr.—This week: Mr. Alban B. Limpus' company, in "Bella Donna." The cast includes: Misses Georgina Wynter, Agnes Knights, Flora Hayden, Messrs. E. W. Thomas, Dudley Stuart, W. J. Butler, Andrew Buck, H. Gumbert, Ernest Watts-Tye, Douglas Lewis, Alfred McMahon, Horace Broad, and Frank Kidger.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. . Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Rabottini and his band; the Four Kays, musical and dancing act; Victor Brothers, acrobats; Arthur Stacey, comedian and dancer; Marie Francis, chorus comedienne; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Miss Ingeborg Neillsen, soprano; Harry Morris, comedian; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; Asst. M., Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—This week: Carl Hertz, illusionist assisted by Miss Emelie D'Alton; J. H. Wakefield, coon delineator; Maudie Vera, versatile artiste; Vera Moore and Sister, vocalists; Happy Tom Parker; Cartwright and O'Farrell, amateur prize-winners); the famous Leslie Bros in "Music Mad"; and pictures.

NEW PICTUREDROME. — P., Hippodrome (Devonport), Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. G. E. Prance; M., Mr. F. J. Studd.—This week (twice nightly): Marguerite Ismay and girls, in dancing scene; Relwyskow, light-weight champion; and pictures.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Morton Powell presents "From Mill Girl to Millionairess." The company includes: Miss Pattie Hastings, Miss Florence Hamilton, Miss Emily Huby, Miss Irene Carrington, Mies Lizzie Lennon, Miss Mabel Roselle, Mr. Alfred Stretton, Mr. Fredk. Freeman, Mr. J. A. Hybert, Mr. Richard Webb, Mr. Western Beecher, Mr. C. H. L. Locke, Mr. E. R. Shrewd, Mr. Allert Sangar, Master G. Blaze, Mr. P. Clay, Miss Arnie May, Miss Lucy Lauder, and Miss Marion Mason. T. M., Mr. Charles H. L. Locke. Next week: "The Collier Lass."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; A. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week (twice nightly): Barton and Ashley, in "Money Talks"; Woodward and Page, trick cyclists; Five Yorkshire Lasses, singers and dancers; Gertie Rex, character comedienne; Goodall and Knox, comedians; Rosa Hamel; Hill and Darling; d'Arc's Marionettes; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week: Jack Hughes, baritone vocalist; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—L., Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Bernard O'Keeffe.—This week: F. Schofield, vocalist; and pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus D., Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. E. L. Garside presents "A Girl's Good Luck." The company includes: Mr. Wentworth Fane, Mr. Lionel French, Mr. Beric Hammersley, Mr. Ben Roby, Mr. Ernest Leake, Mr. Miller Wilson, Mr. John Nicol, Mr. Alfred Askers, Miss Evelyn M. Walton, Winifred Love, Nellie French, and Nellie Garside. Next week: Mr. Charles Locke's company in "A Blind Girl's Love." Good Friday: Catlin's Royal Pierrots.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Paul Barnes, comedian; Agnes Tina, mimic; Fyne and Hurley, comedians in burlesque, "Oliver Twist Twisted"; Les Videos, wonders on wheels; Eddy Martyn, dancing entertainer; Randolph King, comedian; Billy Potter and Effie Hartwell, the novelty couple, introducing "The Man With Two Heads," "Coming Through the Rye," and "The Test Match—Watch the Ball"; and pictures.

DOVER.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. F. L. Loveridge.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Steele and Somerville's company with "Shadows of a Great City" and "A Wife's Peril."

KING'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. H. R. Geddes.—This week (twice nightly), to appear: The Soho Trio, in song and dance; Leo Tell and his Page, in imitations and "Vagabond West"; and Mendel, blind pianist.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Chas. Hyland.—Considerable interest was taken in the production here for the first time of "A Scrape o' the Pen," with the result that a crowded house enjoyed the pawky Scotch humour and situations on Monday night. Mr. Graham Moffat has scored an undoubted success in this his latest comedy, and with his wife helps considerably to the success by his brilliant character acting of Mattha Inglis. Mrs. Moffat as Leezie Inglis—his elderly spouse—also shows great histrionic ability, depicting with rare naturalness all the tenderness and affection of a wife and mother; as Hugh Menzies, Mr. Alex. G. Hunter creates a very favourable impression, and Mr. Will Jaxone as the paid mourner obtains many a hearty laugh; Miss Mattie Maclellan is a charming personality as Hugh Menzies' wife, her singing of the motherless little Effie to sleep being one of the features of the evening. All the other parts are in capable hands, and the broad Scottish accent is delightfully refreshing to the ear. The mounting of the piece is all that could be desired, the Midnight Scene at the Cross and the New Year's Festivities being very realistic. "Till the Bell Rings" proves a clever curtain-raiser. Easter week: D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. H. J. Baynton; M., Mr. Chas. F. Wright.—"The Slave Girl," a stirring American drama, is a strong attraction here. The play is rendered all the more realistic by many refined scenic and musical effects; the slaves' meeting-place is a thoroughly artistic setting, whilst the various coon and plantation melodies are charmingly rendered. The part of Esther is undertaken by Miss Ward, who performs her difficult rôle with histrionic ability. H. Arnold Allen make a manly hero, speaking his lines with elocutionary power; Mr. Fred Rivers gives a fine character study of the Overseer, and Messrs. C. W. Spencer and Karl Edwards are highly successful in their respective rôles. A word of praise is due to the Mississippi Warblers for their plantation melodies.

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. Chas. Terry; Mus. D., Mr. Moody.—Happy Fanny Fields makes everybody jolly, and is most generous with her encores; the Two Vivians give a marvellous exhibition of sharpshooting; the Ellesmeres, a troupe of ladies and gentlemen, give a delightful display of trick cycling; Haig and Novel put an amount of humour into their smart acrobatic act; Gina Tandy sings with all the grace and culture of a finished vocalist; the banjo numbers of Elton and Edwin are thoroughly enjoyed; J. W. Gallagher, a comedian of the eccentric type; and the Sisters Geretti (graceful gymnasts) complete a first-class programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. and S., Mr. George Marsh.—The Six Gordons, in mirth, music and dancing keep the audience in the best of good humour; Walker and Bunting appear in a most amusing vocal sketch, with a Scotch atmosphere; the Omega Trio perform novel and sensational feats as revolving equilibrists; Zoe and Bunnie introduce some novel dances; Dess Desborough gains a decided encore for her sweet singing; Frank Melvin is a Yorkshireman with a rich fund of humour; and the Harris Trio sing and dance to everyone's approval. Pictures complete.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Taylor.—A novel and interesting attraction here is Smaragda's Cats, who show wonderful training; Miss Kitty Colyer is very popular, and deservedly so, all her songs are pleasantly rendered, and her dancing is graceful and fascinating; Harry Anderson has some real good numbers which he does full justice to; the Rochester Sextette pander to the rag-time craze with excellent results; a comedy act by the Millwards, and a ventriloquial act by Besoni are other items on a first-class programme; Eric Clifford possesses a powerful baritone voice; and Gertie Hirst proves most acceptable as a comedienne.

ROTUNDA PICTURES. — P., Mr. John T. Jameson.—A feature of the programme this week is the engagement of Miss Kathleen Regan, a local artiste, whose sweet singing of illustrated songs creates great enthusiasm. A series of pictures, both grave and gay, are shown; and Miss Murphy's Irish Orchestra is up to its usual high standard.

WORLD'S FAIR VARIETIES.—M., Mr. R. J. Goldston; Mus. D. Mr. Sanderson Smith.—This week (twice nightly): Genie Glenn, comedienne; Miss Josie Day, vocalist; Sid Vernon chorus comedian; and pictures.

BODEGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street; Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Dudley Opera House Co., Ltd.; B. M., Mr. F. Edgar Manaton.—This week: Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Miss Evelyn Ormonde, Miss Stella Campbell, Mrs. Arthur Yates, Miss Madge Ross, Mr. Lowe Mackenzie, Mr. Edward Lynton, and Mr. Colin M. Johnston. "The Price of Coal" precedes.

DUMFRIES.

LYCEUM THEATRE AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Dumfries Theatre Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. John Darlison.—This week: The Rose Ring Trio, singers and dancers; J. A. Richardson, baritone; and pictures.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; L. and A. M., Mr. Louis Karpe; Mus. D., Mr. H. Everitt Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents "The Arcadians." The company includes: Misses Margaret Swallow, Maudie Ray, Mary Powell, Nellie Taylor, Nellie Kavanagh, Cecil O'Shea, Ethel Rainforth, Marjorie Vallis, Hazel Alexander, Edith Drayson, Renee Bagot, Messrs. Dan Agar, George Hestor, H. Nelson Hancock, R. Gascoyne, Thomas A. Braidon, Reginald Harcourt, J. Jolly, W. Royce, Robert Montgomery, Ivan Leslie, and Fred Ives. T. M., Mr. Alexander Telford; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Seddon. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15. Next week: Sir George Alexander's company in "Bella Donna."

GAIETY THEATRE.—L., The Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Licensee and M. S., Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—This week (twice nightly): The Carlsens, in comic speciality act, "Fun in a Restaurant"; Francis Hanlon, rag-time chorus singer; the Plowdens, comedy couple, in burlesque; Carmody Trio, jugglers and acrobats; Jolly Jimmy Walker, in chorus songs and "Dutch speciality"; Lilian Saunders, ballad vocalist; Marian James and Fred Chester, comedy stars; and pictures.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and M., Mr. S. McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. E. B. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Hanlon Brothers and company in absurdity, entitled "The Haunted Hotel"; Edna Payne, comedienne; Dan Fraser, Scottish character comedian; the Harmers, vocal comedy duo; High-Davos company, trick roller skaters; the Ketos, eccentrics; Tom Reno, comedian; Mark Stuart, comedian; Crosland's celebrated melody-makers, in "The Burglar's Dream"; and pictures.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. and T., Mr. Alex. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Anderson Grant, female impersonator; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B. B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn.—This week (twice nightly): Darnell and company in "The Real Magic Shop"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., B. B. Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. C. J. McArthy.—This week (twice nightly): Connie Laborde in illustrated songs; G. Bryan and the Strathtay Troupe of Dancers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): The Taylor Trio, American coloured artistes, including Billy Taylor, whistling coon; Leslie and Whiteford, vocalists; and pictures. Thursday evening: Clepington Athletic F.C. benefit. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Bandoni, the one man Band; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. and M., Mr. Arthur Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): The Two Prairies in cowboy scena; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

DURHAM.

PALACE.—P., Mr. T. C. Rawes.—This week: The Royal Bartle Quartette, including Essie and Babs, in musical and dancing act; Carlotta Levey, comedienne; Sadler and Elsie, comedy duo and dancers; Alex. Lawson, acrobatic dancer; and pictures.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clarke; Mus. D., Mr Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): Miss Jessica Waters' and Mr. Arthur Poole's company in "The Dust of Egypt," preceded by "After the Opera." The company includes: Mr. Arthur Poole, Mr. G. Child, Mr. Victor Stanley, Mr. Cyril Percy, Mr. A. H. Reed, Mr. J. Halstead, Mr. Ardene Linden, Mr. P. Groves, Mr. Peter Millar, Mr. Gerald Muir, Mr. Boden, Miss Annie Stalman, Miss Beatrice Egerton, Miss Maud Gill Miss Mabel Constance, Miss Jessica Waters. Next week: Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. Aubrey Smith and company in "Instinct."

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilsen.—This week (once nightly): Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier's company in Shakespearean plays, including "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet," "Macbeth," "Twelfth Night," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," "Much Ado About Nothing," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and "The Merchant of Venice." The company includes: Mr. William Podmore, Mr. Christian Morrow, Miss Sybil Ruskin, Mr. Frederick Keen, Mr. Edward Dunstan, Mr. Frank Hughes, Mr. Frank Pringle, Mr. Frank Cellier, Mr. Doane Gardiner, Miss Gertrude Gilbert, Mr. Gordon Fleming, Mr. Hawksworth Dix. Mr. Arthur Layland, Miss Mona Cox, Mr. Marsh Dunn, Mr. William Podmore, Mr. Walter Carr, Mr. Alexander Young, Mr. Frederick Keen, Miss Marjorie Allen.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Atlas and Vulcana, assisted by the Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, athletes; White and Grey, in musical comedy scena; Clive and Clark, rag-time dancers; Hughes and Lurin, in "The New Secretary"; Hal Leslie, comedian; Carson Hicks; Nora Althea, comedienne; and pictures.

DEVONSHIRE PARK FLORAL HALL.—M. & S., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Skating and animated pictures as usual in the Floral Hall and Pavilion, and on Saturday evening a grand Irish coucert, with Mr. Norfolk Megone conducting a massed band of seventy performers. The vocalists are: Miss Molly Hulme, soprano; Mr. Gerald O'Brien, tenor; and Mr. Dennis O'Neill, in humorous Irish songs.

ECCLES.

CROWN.—P., Messrs. William Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Albert Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Hicks and Yorke, in singing act; Margaret Doris, with canine team of footballers; and pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Simon Ord; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—This house has been occupied during the current week by the talented and popular Southern Light Opera Co., whose excellent performances of "Patience" and "Les Manteaux Noirs," staged on alternate evenings, have attracted overflowing audiences. In the Gilbert and Sullivan work the rôles of Bunthorne and Grosvenor were efficiently filled by Mr. J. S. Brewster and Mr. R. Swan Dickson; with Miss Frances Milne a very charming Patience; Miss Jennie Gulland a capable Lady Jane; the three rapturous maidens well represented by Miss Madge Henderson, Miss Margaret Hart, and Miss Alice E. Bremner; while Messrs. Edward V. Dodd, E. G. Louttit, and Fred Hamilton adequately portrayed the three heavy Dragoon officers. In "Les Manteaux Noirs," Miss Gwen Jackson made an astounding figure of the character of Girola. Miss Jackson used a sweet, well-trained voice with much taste, and the numbers in her part were delightfully rendered, especial applause greeting her singing of the solo, "The heart sighs ever." Miss Jackson was equally successful from a dramatic standpoint, her acting being bright and unconstrained, and her elocution commendably clear. Honours were shared among the other ladies of the cast by Miss Nana Linton and Miss Mary Stark, Isabel and Chlorinda respectively; and the male characters—Don José, Dromez and Philip of Arragon—were well rendered by Mr. F. Hamilton, Mr. Kellar Brewster, and Mr. A. W. O'Riordan. The chorus quite distinguished themselves, and the orchestra also, under the direction of Mr. R. de la Haye, left nothing to be desired.

THEATRE ROYAL. — M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The keen sense of humour which has made Mr. J. Storer Clouston's reputation as a writer of amusing tales, marks his comedy, "Ways and Means," which Mr. Rutland Barrington and Mr. Eustace Burnaby's company presented here for the first time in Edinburgh on Monday evening. Mr. Barrington played with great effect the central character, Robert Dennison, a good-humored, affectionate, hard-headed man of business, who prides himself on his tact. The part was acted with absolute truth and artistic sincerity, and the note of pathos in the third act was finely and delicately done. Miss Olive Wade was bright and charming as Kitty Tyson, and the priggish members of the Glastonbury family were happily hit off by Mr. Guy Dawson as Sir Bevis, Miss Marian Riply as Diana—a clever sketch; Miss Delia Drew as Muriel, and Mr. Arthur Ackerman as Lionel. Miss Emma Stockley showed high excellence in her performance of the kind-hearted Mrs. Fenton, and Miss Geraldine St. Maur and Miss Isabel Ormonde acted well in the small part of the Duchess of Polegate and Mrs. Hathway Dene. Mr. Eustace Burnaby brought to bear upon his impersonation of the Marquis of Savedale, a pleasing presence, clear elocution, and an easy style with much success, and Mr. Eric Bridgman was good as the Duke of Polegate. The large audience, which included amongst other prominent citizens the author's venerable father, Sir Thos. Clouston, the well-known authority on mental maladies, received the play with every mark of favour. "Beauty and Diplomacy," a playlet by Mr. Barrington and Mr. Roland Cunningham, put on as a curtain-raiser, gave Mr. Barrington the opportunity for a finished performance of an elderly diplomatist, Sir Robert Enderby. Mr. E. J. Rogers, the musical-director, may be congratulated on the very enjoyable programme of music which the orchestra rendered during the interval.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., The

likewise attractive. The other plays on the bill are "The Merchant of Venice," "As You Like It," "Macbeth," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," "Richard II.," "Julius Cæsar," and "Hamlet."

KING'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Carpenter.—Much pleasure is derived from the visit of "Proud Maisie," which comes to Glasgow for the first time. The play is admirably staged. In the part of Lady Maisie Miss Laura Cowie acts with much charm, speaking her lines with admirable point; Mr. Vernon Steel's portrayal of Neil MacAlpine is marked by many fine touches, especially in the sterner passages; Guy, Lord Monteith, had a very able exponent in Mr. Henry le Grand, acting the part of the young firebrand with much effect; Mr. J. J. Bartlett as the Earl of Pitcour gives a finished and artistic performance; very graceful is the Morag Macgregor of Miss Ethel Tuson, who sings "Proud Maisie" and "The northern breeze" admirably; the part of Duncan, an old Highland servant, had excellent treatment from Mr. Frederick Morland, well remembered in Glasgow for his work in the Repertory Theatre; Alan Macgregor has an accomplished representative in Mr. Frank Esmond, as also had Prince Charles Stuart, played by Mr. Rohan Clensy. Other small parts are effectively rendered by Mr. W. Garrett. Hollick as Cameron of Lochiel and Mr. Wilfred Manners as MacDonald of Clanranald. The Scotch reel and the minuet dances by the chorus are very well done.

ROYALTY.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.—From Tuesday, March 11: Mr. Alfred Wareing's repertory season, Bjornson's play, "A Gauntlet." Cast includes: Miss Ruth Mackay, Miss Sybil Noble, Miss Gertrude Sterroll, Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Mr. Richard Fielding, Mr. George Elton, and Mr. Frank Conroy.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. J. Crane; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Henry Martin.—This week (once nightly): The Odeon Operatic Society in "A Petticoat Prince." The company includes: Mr. Appleton Moore, Mr. George Mavor, Miss Helena Hartley, Mr. Nicol A. Paton, Mr. W. Ronald, Mr. James M'Clure, Mr. Hugh D. Fraser, Miss Marie Sharp, Miss Jenny Culver, and Miss Violet McRoberts. Next week: "The Girl of My Heart."

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—A large crowd assembled in the Princess's Theatre on Monday evening, the first night of Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard." The pantomime is built for fun, and the audience shrieked with laughter from beginning to end. The fun of the evening is left in the hands of Mr. Peter Bermingham as Sammie, Brothers Lavelle as Jimmie Whiteinch and Strathbungo Bill, Mr. J. S. Stephens as Mother Hubbard, and Mr. J. Randle Wilson as Sir Campsie Hill. Miss Maggie Fraser is charming as Rosie, and Miss Edie Haley is a favourite as Tom Tucker; Miss Rita Halkett is clever as Bella Houston, and the Sisters Cora take extremely well with their clever singing and dancing.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; R. M., Mr. Amand Mascard.—This week, before crowded houses, Mr. Alfred Denville's company is staging "The Miracle," an English version of "Das Wunder," by the Rev. John McLaren and Alfred Denville. It is a capital play, introducing drama, musical comedy, and pantomime effects. The artistes are all good, and play their parts, which are, in some cases, arduous, in the best style. Miss Elsie Saville as Marie plays her part in brilliant fashion; Mr. J. H. Clyndes and Mr. Dobson Paige as the father and uncle respectively are excellent; Mr. Geo. R. J. Austin as Henri and Mr. Clifford Rean as Captain Feldharm, rivals in Marie's affections, act excellently. The trying part of the Madonna is in the capable hands of Miss Betty Stannard. Humorous interludes by Mr. Alfred Denville as Bombastes and Miss Hilda Playfair as Lucette are well received. Miss Playfair's songs are beautifully rendered.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. S. Rhodes Parry; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. B. Moore; Asst. M., Mr. R. D. Harvey.—Mr. Graham Moffat's sparkling Scotch comedy, "The Concealed Bed," is one of the most natural and humorous sketches ever placed before a variety audience. Miss Ellis Drake is excellent as the mother; the daughter is ably portrayed by Miss Anne Fraser; and Mr. George Westland is admirable as Brother Bob. Billy Merson's quaint humour is highly appreciated, and his rendering of that very comic ditty, "The lighthouse keeper," gains a hearty recall; Miss Ida Valli and Mr. Merson gave the Spanish duet from the Glasgow Theatre Royal pantomime, and were encored again and again. Bella and Bijon are delightful in a suffragette sketch. Others contributing to this excellent variety menu are the Three Melbournes, American instrumentalists; the Motley Four, a quartette of high-class vocalists; Andrew McManus, Irish comedian; Ida Valli, the popular pantomime comedienne; and the Stein Esthor Trio, in a remarkably clever comedy acrobatic act.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. Robert F. Steele.—A first-class company has been secured this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of Servais Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, monarchs of magic, who quite mystify the audience with all sorts of up-to-date tricks; the efforts of Miss Ella Shields as a male impersonator are clever and amusing; John Le Hay and company, in a farcical mix-up, entitled "The Invisible Man," by John Le Breton, cause much laughter; and Gestria, comedy juggler, is first-class; Mlle. Dalmere's table circus is a remarkable example in the limit of small animal training; Baker and Gee provide a high-class pot-pourri of rag-time singing, dancing, and laughing; and Martinett and Wallace gained appreciation as musical comedians; while the talented juvenile babes, Tiny and Mite, had a flattering reception.

PALACE.—P. & M., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry M'Kelvie; Mus.-D., Mr. A. Fellowes. — The outstanding attraction is Elfie Fay, who has a style peculiarly her own, and is very diverting; Jessie Templeton, vocalist, is accorded a hearty reception; and the Four Wards, part singers and dancers, provide a pleasing entertainment. Other notable turns include Norman and Leonard Trio, musicians, in "Old-time Melodies"; Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers; Sandy Donaldson, the singing Scot; Omo and Oma, comedy artistes; Sisters Lyndon, duettists and dancers; Moore and Summer, vocal duettists; and Harry Conlin, comedian and dancer.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; M., Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—The principal item is the comedy sketch produced by Mr. Gerald Griffin and company, entitled "Other People's Money," which is amusing from start to finish. Gerald Griffin and Howard L. Tracey fill the two principal parts, and are seen to great advantage. Lily Burnand is here with new and catchy songs. Other items of note include the new sketch by Billy Merson, entitled "This is Business"—an amusing episode; Harry Bedford, successful comedian; Alec Kendal, patter comedian; Neuman and Royle, in a ventriloquial scena; the Three Lyres, expert musicians; and Thorpe and Coe, in a humorous skit, "My Burglar."

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—"The Man from Mexico" takes pride of place here this week, and, with Stanley Cooke in his original part of Benjamin Fitzhugh, this farce in tabloid form met with a good reception, the vagaries of the lock-step march of the prisoners in Sing Sing Prison creating roars of laughter. "Wild Australia," by Fred Ginnet's company, showing the various pastimes of Australian life, is well received, the expert shooting of Miss Bonito being one of its principal features. The Sisters Ruby, acrobats, contortionists, and dancers give a finished performance. Ernest Scharff, in an original scena, "In the Music Store," proves himself a master of many instruments. Messrs. Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators, harmonica players, and vocalists, show dexterity and celerity. Carlton and his assistants keep the audience in the best of humour, his manipulation of cards being a marvel, and other good turns are Daisy James, comedienne, and Doris Trevelyan, vocalist.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD.—R. M., Mr. J. H. [illegible]kden; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Walker.—Topping bill is Miss Jeanie Hartley, fresh from her [illegible]ssful appearance at the Princess' panto. [illegible]ious and attractive, Miss Hartley contributes [illegible]mbers in charming style. Originality is a [illegible] of the performance of Tom Franks, whose [illegible]quial item is heartily received. In an in[illegible]' protean act, "Wanted the Co-respond[illegible]s Marie Jones gains distinction, impers[illegible]no less than seven distinct characters. Capable assistance is rendered by Mr. Ernest Munro. Gus Harris scores in several popular vocal numbers. The Great Vincent gets through some clever acrobatic work on a table. A pleasing contribution is made by the Seven Selects, their vocalism reaching a very high standard, while their dancing is smartly executed. Ernesto, juggler and balancer, in his knife manipulation and ladder act gets a hearty reception. Tom Jersey proves a most versatile and entertaining artiste.

OLYMPIA.—L., Messrs. De Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John M'Millan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—Edward Rainer and his company in a detective episode in three scenes top the bill here this week. Mdlle. Elvira Del Monte assisted by M. Francis with his violin and 'cello, and M. Amsler at the piano and organ, gives an artistic musical treat. "Skits on the 'Phone," a comedy act presented by Royburn and Dix is a clever burlesque on the rag-time craze; others on the programme are: Lilian French, versatile comedienne; Walter Clifford, baritone, with a good voice; Field and Fields, vocal character duettists; Geo. Bass, eccentric comedian; Sadie and Vone, American entertainers, in an original turn; and the Olympia Pictures.

SAVOY.—L., Messrs. Williams and Co.; M., Mr. H. Godwin.—The leading feature of this week's bill is a musical phantasy presented by Mr. Edgar Favelle, entitled "Wedgwood Blue," which is quite artistic. The Eight Sadies have a bright vocal and dancing act. Others contributing to the bill are: Dainty Doris, comedienne; Bobbie, the versatile tramp; Louie Frayne, cornettist; Johnny Beveridge, the blind comedian at the piano; Ray Carroll, juvenile serio; T. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian; Jesmond Dene, light comedian; Nellie Forbes, comedienne and dancer; Hal and Lal, in a smart musical and ventriloquial scena; the Stocktonians, two clever juveniles; La Belle Elise, featuring the dances of all nations; Frank Jerome's juvenile acrobats; Kate Gourlay, character comedienne; the Three Eltons on the horizontal bar; and Mlle. Sara's marblesque trio.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—In addition to the pictures, which are well selected, excellent vaudeville is supplied by D'Elroy, in a speciality act; the Marshams, in an amusing little sketch; May Thorne, a bright comedienne; and Andy Fagan, a clever comedian.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Elgar Edsons give a very pleasing entertainment; and Hattie Petro and Pete Leon are very nimble acrobats. The pictures are entertaining.

STAR PALACE.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—A. Fitzmaurice and R. Lord's company in a powerful playlet, entitled "The Ragged Patriot," forms the chief attraction in an all-round excellent programme. The histrionic capabilities of Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice call forth the heartiest appreciation, and admirable assistance is rendered by Mr. Robert Lord, whose strong portrayal of Dick is eminently successful. Miss Gabrielle Romere impresses with a striking conception of Baroness Madeline von Neishart, a foreign spy; while a feature of the sketch is the appearance as Bobs of Little E. Dane, a juvenile actress of great promise. A flattering reception is accorded Mr. J. M. Hamilton, the popular Scottish tenor, whose contributions are rendered in charming style. Yokohama's wonderful Japanese magical scena is phenomenal. An attractive series of pictures is presented.

PANOPTICON.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; G. M., Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—The Brothers Ferguson submit a clever dancing turn; the musical quick-change act performed by Corcoran is quite a novelty; Sisters Telford are good comediennes and dancers; and McNeil and Conway gain the appreciation of the audience with their patter; a clever turn is submitted by Nettie Ward. A feature of the night's performance is provided by the pictures.

CASINO.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. H. C. Glenroy.—The Ronnies in gymnastic act; Ivan and Ivor, comedians.

MARYHILL STAR PALACE.—P., Maryhill Star Palace, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Wm. Howgate.—This week (twice nightly): J. W. Rowley, comedian; Fred Milburn, ventriloquist; and pictures.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; A. M., Mr. W. Sowerby.—Bros. Marcello, comedy acrobats and jugglers; Johnnie Benson; and Madge Dante.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Sydney Spenser; A. M. & Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Cottrill.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Graham Woods and Archie Helsby present (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) "Send Him Victorious." The cast includes: Mr. A. Balfour Mackay, Mrs. James Archer, Mr. Archie Helsby, Mr. Fred Wills, Mr. Graham Woods, Mr. Roland A. Bridge, Mr. Licnel Carteret, Mr. Albert Mellitt, Mr. Freddie Edwards, Miss Ida Mackay, Miss Madge Palmer, Miss Marie Robson. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: "A Beautiful Fiend."

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week: J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman's company in "Nick Carter." The cast includes J. Forbes Knowles, Miss Mary Lovett, Little Daphine Grey, Mr. Walter Clark, Mr. William Burgess, Mr. Roger Joyner, Mr. Edward Wishaw, Mr. Frank Thompson, Miss Ella Vane, Mr. Harry C. Momber, Miss Susie Bevan, Miss Edith Manton, Mr. Gerald Henshaw, Mr. G. Harris, Mr. Alfred Sinclair, Miss Nellie Waddington, Mr. E. Kenyon, and Mr. Will Ellythorne.

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatre, Ltd.—This week: Miss Kitty Woodford and Duval, and pictures.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. P. Bennett.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Josh Clifton presents the Five X-Rays, "the mad athletes"; and pictures.

COLISEUM.—P. & M., Mr. R. Hainsworth.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Chas. Locke's company presents "Bonnie Mary." The company includes: Mr. Geo. Lyttleton-Holyoake, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. John Cullen, Mr. Ernest J. Fare, Mr. Victor T. Raymond, Mr. Walle Spinner, Mr. Charles Meyers, Mr. Tom Senior, Mr. William Grante, Mr. Frank Preston, Miss Leah Marlborough, Miss Lissie Young, Miss Alice Morrow, and Miss Beatrice Malvern.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Dane and Daley, comedy duo; Miss May Mount, comedienne; and pictures.

GRANTHAM.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Henry Carlton presents the "Tit-Bits" concert party; pictures.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. W. T. Green.—Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, the Royde Répertoire Co. in "Trilby," preceded by "Bamboozling"; Tuesday and Thursday, "Penelope," preceded by "A Thing of Rags and Patches"; Friday, "Business is Business." The company includes: Mr. Frank Royde, Mr. Francis J. Duguid, Mr. Edgar G. Wood, Mr. William Daunt, Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell, Mr. Arthur Fayne, Mr. Frank Milroy, Mr. Charles Wiseman, Mr. Ernest Scott, Mr. Percy St. Clair, Mr. Algernon Black, Miss Macdonald Martin, Miss Eve Bates, Miss Marie Ramuz, and Miss Haidee Gunn. B. M., Mr. Percy St. Clair. Next week: "The Cattle Thief."

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—M. D., Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week: The Laurie Brothers, in athletic act; Belle Green, comedienne; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—This week: Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in "A Butterfly on the Wheel." Company includes: Mr. O. Powis Griffiths, Mr. T. A. Shannon, Mr. Douglas Greet, Mr. Morrice Seaton, Mr. Herbert Greville, Mr. Norman Leslie, Mr. Horace West, Mr. Shirley Gerard, Mr. Andrew McIntyre, Mr. Edward Herbert, Mr. John Wardrop, Mr. George Cumming, Miss Daisy Cordell, Miss Violet Greville, Miss Frances Titheradge, T. M., Mr. Herbert Greville. Next week: "Kismet."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Hinton.—This week: Mr. Wilson Howard's company in "What Women Will Do For Love." Company includes: Miss Carlotta Anson, Miss Madge Clare, Miss Florence M. Daly, Mr. Fred G. Ingleby, Mr. Frank Hertie, Mr. Gerald Smythe, Mr. Carl Vallender, Mr. Ambrose Horton, Mr. George Shreeve, Mr. A. E. Rose, Mr. H. Pitt, Mr. J. Leicester, Mr. T. H. Winter, Mr. Wilson Howard. Next week: "One Life, One Love."

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: Betty Barclay and a Baritone; Max Rivers and Mamie Sullivan, dancers; Marriott Edgar, the genial duchess; Francis and Alfred, juggiers; Mertz and Whittle, comedians; Two Canadians, instrumentalists; Edna Latonne, male impersonator. Next week: Wee Georgie Wood.

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week (once nightly and Thursday matinée): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." Cast includes: Mr. Frederick Groves, Mr. J. Patric Curwen, Mr. Ernest Graham, Mr. John Howell, Mr. Gordon Ash, Mr. Paul Wynter, Mr. John Killner, Mr. Henry Armstrong, Miss Hilda Francks, Miss Muriel Pope, Miss Marie Wright, Miss Grace Croft, Miss Dorothy Wood, Miss Esty Marsh. M., Mr. E. H. Bull. Next week: "The Silver King."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Chas. C. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. D. Bromwich.—This week: "1,000 to 1 Against," by Messrs. H. J. Corner and Leo Ward's company; W. J. Churchill, comedian; Lupino Lane, comedian and dancer; the Miles Stavordale Quintette; the Martelloni acrobatic troupe; Gladys and Alber in a comedy act; La Pia, dancer; and pictures.

KING'S.—L., Mr. J. P. Moore; M., Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: Vaudeville and pictures.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; A. M., Mr. Sydney A. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Carter Livesey presents "An Amateur Anarchist"; Mira Jensen, character vocalist; Selwyn and Willows; Jack Roscoe, comedian; Stanley and Vandyke, in comedy act; Valvo, ventriloquist; Volta and Maude, bar performers; Walter Lawley and Sadie East in "A Chance Acquaintance." Next week: "Patience," performed by the Harrogate Amateur Players.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This week: Mr. B. Iden Payne's company in "Man and Superman" on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings and matinée; "The Man of Destiny" and "How He Lied to Her Husband" on Thursday and Friday. The cast includes: Messrs. Martin Sands, Wilfred Fletcher, Esme Percy, Arnold Reynor, Alfred Payne, Desmond, Brannigan, Misses Isabel Turner, Carrie Haase, Minnie Webb, Emily Patterson, Sylvia Dawson M., Mr. Arnold Reynor; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—P., Messrs. Hall and Ainsley; M., Mr. Robt. Ainsley.—This week: Mr. George A. De Gray and Mr. Harry Masterman present "The Indian Scout." The company includes: Messrs. Geo. A. De Gray, Max Coutts, David Blair, Tyrone Power, Reginald J. Turner, Dick Crossby, Seymour Perry, Bert Carlton, Jack Solderick, Gerald Conner, Leonard Douglas, Miss Kitty Fitzgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, and Miss Violet Ingram.

EMPIRE.—P., Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week: Bob Pender and his Little Dandies; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly): G. Carlton Wallace's play, "The Apple of Eden." Cast includes: Mr. J. G. Grahame, Mr. Percy Ballard, Mr. Richard A. Greene, Mr. Charlton Morton, Mr. W. S. Stevenson, Mr. Henry Chalmers, Mr. Robert Merrick, Mr. Fred C. Roper, Mr. George Merritt, Mr. P. G. Marlar, Miss Doris Gilham, Miss Evelyn Robson, Miss Gwendolen Verschoyle, Miss Iris Trevarthen. G. M., Mr. Richard A. Greene. Next week: Theatre will be closed.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. S. Winks; Mus. D., Mr. T. Hoyle.—This week: Mr Charles Locke's company in the drama "One Life, One Love." Cast: Mr. T. Arthur Ellis, Mr. Lancelot Usher, Mr. Polson Turner, Mr. Ernest Yandell, Miss Emma Rainbow, Miss Cherry Veheyne, Miss Ethel Wensley, and Miss Dora Pass.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: Walter Bird's company in sketch, "Three Knocks"; Alex Piccad and company in "The Burglars of New York"; Billy Curzon, dame comedian; The Twelve Rainbows, in song and dance; The Selbinis, trick cyclists and acrobats; Frances and Gladys Henderson, singers, dancers and musicians; Will Sullivan, comedian; Norbeck and Fraser, vocal duettists.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. F. Morton; M. D., Louis Hermann.—Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company in "Ready Money" is making a strong appeal to the audience who are nightly filling the Grand. It brings quite a new atmosphere across the footlights in the way of illustrating Yankee detective methods. All the main episodes were followed by the audience with the utmost interest. Mr. Mark Blow played the part of Jackson Ives with characteristic skill; his coolness in moments of stress was made manifest in clever fashion. Mr. Fred Tooze, a newcomer, created a very favourable impression as Baird. Mr. Archie Selwyn made a clever study of the rôle of Sidney Rosenthal. Mr. Aubrey Mather realised the possibility of Morgan, the financier. Wm. Stewart was pleasingly portrayed by Mr. L. Bascombe-Ward. Miss Olivia Glynn played with sympathetic expression the rôle of Grace Tyler; other ladies furnishing pleasant aid were Misses Helen Langton, Adelaide Tanner, Madge Laverton, and Dorothea St. Clair Smith. "Lady Jane" precedes the first play.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Mortons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Geo. Morton; M. D., Mr. Watts.—A play new to the city was produced here on Monday, its title, "The White Slave Girl," being topical in interest, it makes a strong appeal to the patrons of the playhouse. Miss Hilda Beverley, of whose work in the past one has pleasant remembrance, played with fine effect the rôle of Claire Fontenoy, and Mr. Jas. Jarrett gave a good character study as Gerald Danvers. As Eva Lennard, Miss Dorothy B. Kirke won the full sympathy of the house. The hero was cleverly limned by Mr. Frank V. Fenn. Mr. Syd Clayton was a very satisfactory Will Plumpton. The remainder of the cast was in efficient and intelligent hands.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—This week (twice nightly): George Lashwood, comedian; Edith Fink, comedienne; Lee and Kingston, comedy duo; Three Cape Girls, vocalists; Solo in "A Lesson in Temperance"; Chas. Lewis, ventriloquist; Sabrie Fern and company in vocal scena; Bob Ivy and Lynn in "The Garden of Music"; Sammy Shields, football enthusiast; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—L., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week: Julian Rose in "Levinsky at the Wedding"; May Mars, comedienne; the Brentwoods, entertainers; Hetty Zillwood, chorus vocalist; Harry Raymond and Ivy in coon songs; Gill and Hall in gymnastic act; Raggermann Trio; Rembrandt, artoonist; Jenkins Bros., acrobats.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week; Zancigs, thought-reading act; Gesta and Hoe, in song, dance and story; Elroy, pedal wonder; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: Mr. B. Iden Payne and H. Theodore's company in "The Younger Generation." The company includes: Mr. Rupert Harvey, Mr. W. Bridge Adams, Mr. George Owen, Mr. Lionel Fancourt, Mr. Eric Graham, Mr. Kenneth Bruse, Mr. William Dexter, Miss Ethel St. Barbe, Miss Dorothy Kingsley, Miss Eda Farmer, and Miss Katherine Herbert. "The Tallyman" precedes. The Lyceum will be closed during the week, and reopen on Easter Monday with "The Prisoner of Zenda."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. J. Gordon Bostock.—This week: Miss Marie Schulz, in "The Willow-pattern Plate"; Billy Myles, in monologue, "Baby's Box of Toys"; the Barnard Family, in "Dolls Alive"; Hunter and Bob, in comedy act; Great and Good, acrobats; King Luis and Partner, in equilibristic act; the Bros. Ford, in singing and dancing; Lola Patey, the little Dutch colleen; and pictures.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; A. M. & S., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy present "The Sleeping Beauty." The company includes: Miss May L. Murray, Miss Molly Rafferty, Mr. Will McGeoch, Miss Marie Lumberg, Mr. Stanley Annison, Mr. Jackson Collis, Mr. Teddy Worth, Miss Nellie Stuart, Miss Lily Parkinson, Miss May Lilian, Mr. Williams, Mr. Alf. E. Rick, Mr. Tom Cowley, Messrs. Hughes and Allen, Wee Georgie Harris, Miss Kitty Rafferty. T. M., Mr. H. B. Levy. Next week: "The Bellringer."

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; Joint M. D., Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hope; Asst. A. M., Mr. A. F. Williams.—This week (once nightly): Sarnthaler Troupe of vocalists; Henri Foden, hand balancer; Renee Ray in artistic tableau; and pictures.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson. — This week: The Hadji Mohamed Troupe; Della Ray, comedienne; Bert and Faye, in a musical scena; Phil Bransby, comedian; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatres Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: Mr. Ernest C. H. Gittins and company present "Maritana" and "The Daughter of the Regiment"; Thos Delaware, impersonator; John and Lilian Grand, vocalists; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Lillie Williams and Co.; M., Mr. Thomas Rodger.—This week: "Peggy," by a company under the management of Mr. John Halpin. The cast includes: Messrs. Holland, Bosco, Walton, Hartley, Martin, Merry, and the Misses Ethel Callaner (Peggy), Madge Lucas, Eva Macdonald, Ella Wynne, and Kitty Cressy.

PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Cummings.—Irve Hayman and Dorothy Moor in sketch, "Christmas Eve"; Murphy and Mack, in a sketch entitled "The Major's Reflection"; and the Two Draycotts, in singing act.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Mus. C., Mr. Jasper J. Wright.—This week (first three nights twice nightly): Cooke, juggling tramp; Sisters Warner, musical and dancing kilties; Edwin Firth and company in sketch, "Desperation"; Nesta Verney, male impersonator; Whimsical Wilbert in instrumental and dancing act; Jennie Dene, comedienne; and Oscar King, illusionist.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite; Mus. D., Mr. John Parker.—This week (twice nightly, and Saturday matinée): Moore and Burgess Minstrels. T. M., Mr. Chas. H. Phipps. The theatre will be closed next week.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. John Porter.—This week (twice nightly and Monday matinée, 2.30): Horace Monto, in song story; Wade and Francis, comedians; the Paldrens, in lamp-jumping act; Lancaster White Star Minstrels; Miss Cora Gill, in sketch, "An Angel Unawares"; Edna Lyall, the Yorkshire nightingale; and pictures.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Theatre and Opera House (Leeds), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. John Hart; G. M., Mr. Wynn Miller; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Jaxon.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Pink Lady." The company includes: Miss Hilda Vining, Mr. Percy Carr, Miss Gladys Beech, Mr. Robert Blythe, Mr. Walter Cross, Mr. Barron H. Alford, Miss Rhoda Gordan, Miss Mynie May, Mr. John Maxwell, Mr. Jack Ricketts, Mr. Frank Attree, Miss Zoe Windley, Mr. Harold Loscombe, Mr. Marshall Sheppard, Miss Mabel Durrant, Miss Joan Keddie, Mr. Hewett Whiting, Mr. George Paulton, Miss Belle Rivers, Miss Lal Dickens, Miss Nell Desmond, Miss Mabelle Firth, Mr. Sylvanus Potts, Mr. Henry J. White, Mr. Fred Wright, jun. T. M., Mr. Charles Thorburn. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "The Sunshine Girl."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth; A. M., Mr. George H. Almond.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday and Tuesday matinées): Leeds Choral and Operatic Society present "Mikado." Cast includes: Mr. J. H. Littlewood, Mr. H. Jackman, Mr. W. H. Shaw, Mr. Fred W. Senior, Mr. W. Hubert Varley, Mr. C. Stead, Miss Teresa Barraclough, Miss Ida Coates, Miss M. B. Coulter, Miss E. Iliffe Gummerson.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. F. W. Wood; M. & Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush.—This week (twice nightly): Frank M. Thorne's company in "The Woman Pays." Cast includes: Mr. Will Beasley, Mr. Frederick Garratt, Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne, Mr. H. C. Lanceley, Mr. J. Fulton Millar, Mr. Charles Arthur, Mr. Arthur Cresswell, Mr. Dunlop Stewart, Mr. Pat Quinn, Mr. H. W. Percival, Mr. Arthur Brownlaw, Mr. A. S. Sale, Miss Hetty Fergusson, Miss Clara Widdicombe, Miss Lillian Bales, Miss May Wright, Mrs. S. Porteous. Matinée, Monday, 2.30. Next week: "Somebody's Sweetheart."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): Jen Latona in comedy songs; Liane D'Eve, comedienne; Miller Bros., bar artistes; Jack Thomas, comedian; Tom Woottwell in character studies; Bob and Jenny Leonard, comedy duo; Fred Russell, ventriloquist; Ike and Will Scott, comedians; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—R. M. & Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—This week (twice nightly): Ella Retford; T. Elder Hearn presents "The Romance of a Studio"; Guest and Newlyn, conversationalists; Will H. Kuming and a piano; Julian Mack, talking dame; Five Maclarens, vaudevillians; the Jesse L. Lasky company present "Detective Keen"; Dot Kitchen; pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, at 2.30.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. James Bibby; Mus. D., Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Irving and Jasmine, in singing and dancing act; Alf Warner, entertainer; Ted Baylis, comedian; and pictures. Thursday, Friday and Saturday (twice nightly): Mr. W. V. Garrod presents "The Sledge Hammer," by Wilson Barrett.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week: Talbot and Clare, in comedy burlesque, "An Eastern Absurdity"; St. Ruth and Conyers, duettists; Durazcoe and Ayella, equilibrists; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

TOWN HALL.—P., The Leek Urban District Council; Licensee, Mr. Harold Henshaw.—Monday and Tuesday, Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore presented "Ann." The company included Mr. Barton White, Mr. Leslie Crowther, Mr. Harry Gribble, Miss Grahame Arthur, Miss Lorna Tuffley and Miss Dorothy Lesleigh. G. M., Mr. Barton White; B. M., Mr. Ernest Mason.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Herr Theo. Klee.—We are being entertained again here with Mr. Brandon Thomas's company in the evergreen and still popular laughter-maker, "Charley's Aunt." Mr. Charles Windermere deserves the highest commendation for his clever performance as Lord Fancourt Babberley, and has two adequate supporters in Mr. Lawrence Anderson as Jack Chesney, and Mr. F. T. Cooper as Charles Wykeham. Mr. Theo McCausland Stewart is very good as Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, and Mr. James Page is also capital as Stephen Spittigue. Mr. Sydney Compton, as Brassett, is excellent, and Miss Pauline Hugen as Ela Delahay, Miss Vera Cornish as Amy Spettigue, Miss Florence Saunders as Kitty Verdun, and Miss Ada Ferrar as Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez, acquit themselves in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. "The Colour Sergeant" precedes, the various parts being capably performed by Mr. Sydney Compton, Mr. T. F. Cooper, Mr. Walter Bannister, Mr. James Page, Miss Pauline Hugen, and Miss Nancy Harding.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. and M., Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner;

Cahill Mr. Bertram was exceedingly humorous, being well supported by Miss Nelly V. Warden in the rôle of Kitty Cahill; Mr. P. Barry Lewess achieved much success as Jim Middleton; a charming Bess Hamilton came from Miss Amy Hardcastle; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt played Noah Catchpole very effectively; and other worthy supporters were Mr. Frank Wheatley (Grey Wolf), and Mr. Peter H. Gardner (Jasper).

ROYAL PALACE.—M. Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Stage M., Mr. E. D. Allen.—"The Conscience of a Judge" has been given here this week by the stock company, the principal parts being in the care of Messrs Harry Tresham (Herbert Granstone), John Davidson (Cecil Bentley), Sydney Grant (Sir Edward), Miss Gwynne Warren (Ethel Vaughan), and Miss F. Melrose Millett (Jessica Draycott), Brown's Bioscope showed the latest pictures.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—Good business has been done here during the week, the principal attraction being "The Rag-time Revue," by Austin Hurgon Among the large company of performers was Miss Fern Andree. The production was received with much favour. The McNaughtons were always popular in this city, and on their present visit they received a hearty welcome from many admirers; Charles Norton, "the old firm," showed himself a mimetic comedian of talent; Marjorie Dawson, "the crinoline girl," pleased everyone with her songs; Adam Tomlinson had some taking songs; as comedy acrobats the Three Comerfords were a capital turn; and Shirley and Ransome, who were unable to appear, found an able deputy in Miss Ivy Latimer, who sang very pleasingly.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—"The Midnight Wedding" has been played twice nightly by Mr. Walter Howard's company. Mr. Alfred Paumier ably undertook the rôle of Paul Valmar; Miss Annie Saker was again the Princess, and pleased everybody; other good supporters being Messrs. William J. Miller (Leopold), Aiden Lovett (Captain Rudolph), W. Watkin Wynne (Sergeant Max), Herbert Maule (Bobo), St. George Frere (Otto), Miss Jessie Burgwitz (Kathie), and Miss Ruth Wingrove (Satanella).

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S.—P., Longton Theatres, Ltd; G. M., Mr. H. Sheriff Howard.—The week (twice nightly): The Queen's Repertory Company presents "A Lancashire Lad." Cast includes: Mr. Ernest R. Allen, Mr. Henry Carlisle, Mr. F. B. Woulfe, Mr. Fred Hodson, Mr. Wm. Gardiner, Mr. Frank Pettingell, Mr. John Meadows, Miss Maud Elliott, Miss Gertrude Glanmor, Miss Nancy Newell, Miss Amy McNeill, Miss Edith Loraine. Next week: "Cowboy's Revenge."

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr Arthur Bregden; R. M., Mr. Graham Hylton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Bowes presents "Ali Baba." The company includes: Mr. Charles Towers, Mr. Will Parkin, Mr. Tom France, Mr. Sid Vance, Mr. Percy Mavis, Mr. Ted Freeling, Mr. Harry Scorey, Miss Emmie King, Miss Ethel Mavis, and Miss Sibyl Rayne. Specialities by the Four Scoreys, in a musical pot-pourri; Trix and Trixie, dancers; Mavis and Mavis, duettists and dancers; Palmyra, the elastic lady; The Cecil Girls, dancers; The Zeimars, hand balancers; and Little Tom Doddie, comedian. Musical-director, Mr. Sydney Jukes.

TOWN HALL.—Mr. Chas. Steuart's company is announced for the last three nights in Lochmere Worrall's play "Ann." The artistes are: Miss Dorothy Lesleigh, Miss Grahame Arthur, Miss Lorna Tuffley, Mr. Barton White, Mr. Leslie Crowther, and Mr. Harry Gribble.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—P., Mr. B. Pareezer.—This week: "I Defy the World." Next week: "The Prisoner of Zenda." Easter week: "The House That Jack Built."

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week: Vonetta, illusionist; Cliff Ryland, Ethel Donna, Master Sydney, and pictures.

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; B. M., Mr. Louis J. Beard.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. O. Silverstone presents "The Ruin of a Countess." The company includes: Mr. O. Silverstone, Mr. Ernest Dare, Mr. Sydney Humphries, Mr. Geoffrey Chate, Mr. Ted Mooney, Mr. Harry C. Rutland, Mr. Joe Nicholas, Mr. E. Jeffs, Miss Olive York, Miss Maud Grainger, Miss Mary Douglas, Miss Jessica Ford.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. W. K Gatley.—This week: Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company in "The Collier's Lass." The cast includes: Mr. Harry Sainsbury, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. Wm. H. Melrose, Mr. Ben Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Esterbrook, Mr. George Lorena, Miss Elsie Sheldon, Miss Annie Graham, Miss Ellen Beverley, Miss Bella Moody, and Miss Ivy Glowser.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Mr. Geo. Gude.—Thursday, 13th, and two following nights: Miss Pauline Cassell's company, with "The Master of Clive" and "A Harvest of Hate."

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. T. S. Dickie and Co; R. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—This week: Walter Ellis and company in a farcical sketch, "Little Willie," Chas. Cardow's Burglars, Alf Brooks, Lily Arthur, Chas F. Best, Edie Anderson, and The Amio Trio.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Licensee and M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Edmondstone Shirra; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Chambers. — The first visit to Manchester of Mr. Robert Burnett and company in "The Bear Leaders" took place here on Monday. R. C. Carton's farcical comedy proved quite to the taste of the audience, who followed the amusing complications of the story with great interest. Mr. Robert Burnett was constantly entertaining as Edward Petworth, and Miss Janet Gillette was a clever and attractive Lady Marjorie Hillborn. Mr. Ian O. Will and Miss Ormonde Wynne were also conspicuously good as Mr. and Mrs. Stanhope Molyneaux. Other interesting parts were in the hands of capable players, and the performance as a whole was excellent. The comedy was preceded by a play in one act by Mary Burnham, entitled "Mother's Bill," a notice of which appears in another column.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — P., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. W. Chambers.—The second week of the D'Oyly Carte Repertoire Co. opened on Monday with "The Yeomen of the Guard," which was admirably rendered, and thoroughly enjoyed by a good house. Mr. Henry A. Lytton's Jack Point was, as usual, a big success, and the Shadbolt of Mr. Fred Billington had all the old unctuous humour. Miss Olive Turner, Miss Beatrice Boarer, and Miss Louie Rene were all good, and the other prominent male exponents equally commendable. On Tuesday, "H.M.S. Pinafore" was given, "Princess Ida" being reserved for Friday.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Miss A. E. F. Horniman; D., Mr. Lewis Casson; A. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall.—A very enjoyable performance of "Old Heidelberg" was given here on Monday by Miss Horniman's company. The comedy is to be given for nine nights and a matinée, and is certain to prove a marked attraction. The outstanding characters are, of course, Karl Heinrich and Kathie. The former part was played by Mr. Bernard Copping with unassuming force and considerable sympathy, which earned him generous applause; while Miss Lilian Cavanagh portrayed the girl with equally admirable effect, and worthily shared the honours. Another notable figure was that of Dr. Juttner, very finely impersonated by Mr. Jules Shaw; and among many others who contributed to the good effect were Mr. Russell Thorndike as the consequential Lutz, Mr. Lewis Casson as Von Haugk, Mr. Brember Wills as Von Passarge, Mr. Eliot Makeham as Kellerman, and Mr. H. F. Maltby as the Graf von Asterberg. The students' songs were sung by members of the Orpheus Glee Society. The play, given by permission of Sir George Alexander, was produced by Mr. Lewis Casson.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton. — Miss Winifred Maude's company is here in the sensational drama, "The Mormon and the Maid," which deals with Mormonism in relation to the White Slave traffic. Mr. Albert E. Banister gives the right heroic touch to his impersonation of Stephen Walmer, and Miss Winifred Maude as Dove Carton (his ward) makes a convincing and attractive heroine. The evil business of the play is strongly brought out by Mr. Arthur L. Read as Phineas Carne, a Mormon Elder, and Miss Gipsy Alexander as Pauline Brail, a Mormon adventuress. The other parts are well handled.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale. — Mr. Francis Laidler's musical pantomime play, "The Pride of Byzantia," is here this week. It is a brilliant and pleasing show, the dresses, scenery and singing being very good, and the parts all ably filled. Mr. Arthur White as Sammy Bunkinsopp provides the major share of the humour, to the delight of crowded audiences. Mr. Reg. Matthews as the Hon. Jack Darcham sings well, and Miss Dorothy Vere in the title-rôle, Princess Sadie, is also a prominent success. Little Elsie Pennell as Harry is deserving of praise, in conjunction with Little Mary O'Hara as Winnie, Harry's sister. Among other clever members of the cast Miss Madge Soutter and Miss Lucy Murray should be named.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Mason. Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company are playing here in the picturesque Western drama, "An Indian Girl's Devotion." Mr. Matthew H. Grenville as Jack Stevenson, and Miss Margaret Hobart as Bessie Hope are capital in the heroic rôles, and a strong and interesting contrast is provided by the villainy of Seth Preenes, played by Mr. Cecil A. Melton. Mr. Fred Osmond contributes much humour as Who Ray, a coloured servant; and the remaining parts are adequately filled.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley. — Mrs. Frank Bateman presents here the domestic problem drama, "Which Did She Love?" produced originally under the title of "Love—and What Then?" Mrs. Frank Bateman in the emotional rôle of Mary Wakefield is well supported by Mr. Fred W. Goddard as the Rev. George Wright and a company of marked ability. "The King and the Orange Girl" varies the programme on Friday.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—The incomparable Chung Ling Soo is a big draw here, in a performance of weird and wonderful Oriental magic. Chung Ling Soo also takes an entire special matinee on Thursday, giving the whole of the entertainment himself. The corresponding place of honour in the bill is occupied by Ernest Shand, the "perky" comedian, who, in addition to other numbers, scores a huge success with his new rag-time parson song. The Three Wolkens add what is well described as "the last word" in comedy gymnastics; and other good turns are the McConnell Trio, vocal sketch artistes; Fred Keeton, comedian; Elly Adair, comedienne and dancer; and Arthur Argent and Lillian Gwynne, in an artistic vocal melange.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Nelson Barry; Mus. C., Mr. Alfred Haines. Star turns here this week are May De Sousa, in selections from her musical comedy repertoire; George Barrett (assisted by Betty Rutherford) in the screaming playlet, "Two Flats"; and Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer and sifflcur. George Leyton also figures prominently in his military and spectacular production, "Lucknow": Hinton and Wooton appear in their comedy football match on cycles; Ando's Happy Little Japs give a surprisingly agile acrobatic display; Lona Wayne, the newest comedienne, gives a smart turn in wit and vocalism; and Daisy Sloan, Scotch character comedienne, is well received.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Peter Watson; S. and Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Gaggs.—The famous Fregoli tops the bill here in his well-known protean sketches, and meets with a great reception. "Faking the Film," a screamingly funny sketch, produced by Edward Marris, with Freddy Rigby and Louis du Cane, is well received; and the dancing of the Carbrey Brothers, from America, is exceedingly good; Willy Pantzer and company, in aero-pantomimic act, "The Limit," score; whilst other smart turns are offered by the Brothers Leo, comedians; the Hesseys, vocalists and instrumentalists; Arthur Woodville, comedian; and Harry M. Vernon's company in "Canada," a capital "Big Pine Camp" story. Up-to-date pictures are also included.

TIVOLI. — P., The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; A. M., Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Mus. D., Mr. George Neilson.—Excellent turns here are provided by Maie Ash and Fred Allandale in a bright musical comedy duologue, "The Soldier and the Girl": Millie Doris, a capital comedienne of the Nellie Wallace order; Ida Revell, dashing chorus comedienne; and Lillian Barnes, in taking songs. Other good items are those of Yazo, violin virtuoso, assisted by Mlle. Leclerc; Cecilia Heywood, operatic vocalist; Jack Shiers, comedian; and Renee Adair, a dainty comedienne. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Pictures complete. Next week: Mollier's Lilliputians and Bertha Stuart.

HULME HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—A capital programme here is headed by Mr. Fred Karno's company in "The Hydro," with Syd Chaplin as Nick Carter. Another good turn is that presented by Herbert Shelley in "Dan, the Outlaw," a protean sketch, in which Mr. Shelley sustains five distinctive characters. Harry Brown, the coloured comedian, of "Is everybody happy" fame, is, as usual, excellent; and the performance of the Three Piquays is particularly effective. Other smart and enjoyable items are offered by Le Sines, a troupe of expert dancers; Zakarse Ermakov, in military exercises and sports; Reg. Wentworth, light comedian; and Angus and Escott, comedy artistes.

ALHAMBRA OPENSHAW.—L., the Alhambra, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Harney.—This week (twice nightly): A thrilling romantic drama, "Lord Harkaway, the Sporting Detective," well played by Mr. Fred Maxwell and company, is the attraction here. As Lord Harkaway Mr. Fred Maxwell is highly successful, and Miss Kathleen Stewart is particularly good in the dual rôles of Ellen and Lucy Grey. Excellent support is rendered by a strong cast, including Mr. Philip Lawton, Miss Muriel Palmer, Mr. S. Redburn, Mr. Norman P. Holt, Mr. Harry Noble, Mr. George Warwick, Mr. William Hutherothoe, Mr. St. John Medley, Mr. R. Garthorne, Mr. Fred Silvers, Mr. Bert Harwood, Mr. G. Littleton, and Mr. Fred Morgan. B. M., for Mr. Fred Maxwell, Mr. George Warwick.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead; A. M., Mr. Jas. A. Trippett; Mus. D., Mr. David L. Booth.—After a highly successful week at the Queen's Park Hippodrome, Mr. J. A. Campbell's romantic play, "The Queen Mother," with Miss Mary Fulton in the cast, is the attraction.

LESLIE'S PAVILION.—P., Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M., Mr. George Phillips.—Here (once nightly): "The March Hares," under the direction of Mr. Philip Braham, open here the summer season in new "Musical Mixtures" and burlesques. The combination is a strong one. Next week: Mr. Will Tissington and his "Merry Entertainers."

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MANSFIELD.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Captain Cecil Clayton.—This week: Mr. Travis Green's company in "Queen of the Redskins." The company includes: Misses Laura Walker, Flora Leslie, Agnes Webster, Phoebe Brady, May Morn, Messrs. Walter H. Wilson, Casper Middleton, Theodore Kelly, Fred W. Leonard, Clarence Ibbotson, Lionel Moore, Frank Brady, and George Davis.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Mansfield Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Captain Cecil Clayton; R. M., Mr. F. Lantree.—This week: "The Venetians," Sam Elto, comedian; Romany, the Prairie Girl; Phillips and Terry, comedians; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Six Drummer Girls, dancers, etc.; Nora St. Albans, ballad vocalist; and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday): Mr. George Gordon and company present "East Lynne." Cast includes: Miss K. Cranston, Miss Fay Rivington, Miss Glad Thorpe, Miss M. Lewis, Little Florrie Booth, Miss Grace Warner, Mr. George Gordon, Mr. Graham Roberts, Mr. Guy Desmond, Mr. Roy Rhind, Mr. Billy Owen, Mr. Claude Morton, Mr. K. Josephs, Miss L. Palmer, T. M., Mr. George Gordon.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Henri Cazman and Mamily; Florence Yaymen, quick-change artiste; Two Plumbs, vocalists and dancers; Les Cantorelles, vocalists; George Prince, comedian; Lenaro, humorist; Yorene's Silhouettes; and pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. J. W. Wilkinson. —This week: "What Happened to Jones," presented by Mr. C. Vernon Proctor. The company includes: Misses Amy Rudd, Harrietta Polini, Nancy Clutterbuck, Sarah Dudley, Christine Jensen, Connie Meadows, and Messrs. C. Vernon Proctor, Charles Sewell, G. Carleton-Crowe, Frank Venn, Raymond Dudley, Claude Lenton, and John Lirwill. Next week: "The Barrier."

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—G. M., Mr. Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): Alfonso Silvano, equilibrist; Johnson and Bert, character comedians, presenting "A Queer Customer"; Lola; May Trio, on electric trapeze; Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancer; Ada Gatley, wire artist; Leo Tramer, patter comedian; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

EMPIRE.—P., Empire Palace Co.; M. D., Messrs. Cunningham and Fox; M., Mr. Geo. Beverley.—This week: Geo. Harvard and company in comedy playlet, "The Fairy Wand"; Henry D. Adams, juggler; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith.; M., Mr. W. L. Knight; Mus. D., Mr. G. W. Simpson.—This week: The Falcons, acrobatic comedians; Ethel Brailsford, principal boy; Two Styles, comedians; The Vedras, eccentrics; Leo Fields, comedian; Mr. Sinclair Neild and company in "David Garrick." Cast: Mr. Sinclair Neill, Mr. Basil Dyne, Mr. Ivor Barry, Mr. Ritchie Bell, Miss Beatrice Annersley, Miss Alice Miller; and pictures.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson.—This week: Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." Company includes: Mr. Campbell Gullan, Mr. Goodwin Nock, Mr. Guy Newall, Mr. Dallas Cairns, Mr. Charles Lascelles, Mr. Evelyn Wickens, Mr. Norman King, Mr. Kenneth Webb, Miss Keith Lytton, Miss Mona Harrison, Miss Gladys Hamilton, Miss Edyth Goodall, Miss Murielle Langley, and Miss Tonie Edgar-Bruce.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; M., Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: "A Fatal Crown," by Mr. J. Bell's company, which consists of: Mr. Roy Cuthbert, Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson, Mr. W. H. Vitton, Mr. Arthur Robinson, Mr. John Manners, Mr. Herbert Goddard, Little Tichbourne, Mr. Edward Roy, Mr. Guy Kinley, Mr. Wm. Sadler, Mr. W. Larkspear, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. Leicester Hulk, Mr. J. Doville, Miss Eva Trevenna, Miss Ethel Watkins, and Miss Annie Bell.

EMPIRE.—L., Mr. W. R. Chatto.—This week: Yorke and Adams, comedians; Henry and Leizel, "the loose kids"; Marcus and Gartelle, comedians; Rose Archer, mimic; Tom Jones, whimsical Welshman; Alberta Flaye, violinist; Maver and Barton, comedy cyclists; Edwin Lawrence, comedian; Welda and Wynne, jugglers and dancers.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Thompson; M., Mr. F. Parker.—This week: Mike Whallen, vocalist; Spissell Bros. and Mack, comedy acrobats.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. J. Noice; Mus. D., Mr. K. Ernest Irving.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Macdonald and Young present "The Dollar Princess." T. M., Mr. W. A. Seymour. The company includes: Mr. Charles Midgley, Mr. Norman Bowers, Mr. Austin Green, Mr. Frank Duirs, Mr. Ernest Peirce, Mr. Bert Darrell, Mr. Huntley Gifford, Mr. Donald Gray, Mr. Francis Sawyer, Mr. John Bernard, Mr. Derick Knowles, Miss Margaret Carter, Miss Iris Beresford, Miss Tina Lincoln, Miss Phyllis Desmond, Miss May Lashbrooke, Miss Dorothy Stafford, Miss Mina Goss, Miss Gracie Freeman, Miss Marion Ridding, Miss Margaret Pitts, Miss Marjorie Elliott, Miss Muriel Hynes, Miss Dorothy King, and Miss Wallace-Reville. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.

GNOLL HALL.—P., the Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Martin Adeson, in "Dr. Maud's First Patient"; Geo. Wain, comedian; the Two le Roys, vocalists and dancers; Maudie Olmar, comedienne; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—This week (twice nightly): The Bucher Brothers, in "A Study in Physical Culture"; Martin Henderson, musical genius; France and Lillington, in "A Slight Mistake"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—This week (once nightly): The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co.: Monday, "Mignon"; Tuesday, "The Jewels of the Madonna"; Wednesday, "Il Trovatore"; Thursday, "The Magic Flute"; Friday, "Tannhäuser"; Saturday matinée, 2, "The Jewels of the Madonna"; Saturday evening, "Faust." The company includes: E. C. Hedmondt, Arthur Winckworth, Frederick Clendon, Charles Neville, Felix Fleischer, Samuel Lansdale, William O'Connor, Elizabeth Burgess, Annie Walker, Jean Douglas Wilson, Winifred Geverding, Gladys Deane, Janet Hemsley, Signe Becker, Dorothy Lawson-Tayler, Beatrice Miranda. Next week: "Ways and Means."

PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; B. M., Mr. E. B. Clark.—This week (twice nightly): "The Pride of the Prairie." Cast includes: Graham Winsford, William Hayes, Stephen E. Scanlan, Percy M. Wright, Arthur Duval, Harry Sidney, Henry Goodier, C. Y. Fixott, William Cann, J. J. Stadden, G. Leslie Buxton, Walter Hicks, Cecil Harding, Ling Treherne, Leonard Gardener, Frank Shirley, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alfred Sooper, Vena Morley, Elsie Dene, Gwendoline Jesson, Ethel Bickham. T. M., Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Next week: V. Esmond's Repertoire.

PAVILION.—P., the Pavilion (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell.—This week (twice nightly): Clara Beck, principal boy; Frank Bush, entertainer; Richey Bros., comedians and dancers; Talberto and Douglas; Phil Kauffman, coon; Florrie Elliston, vocalist; O'Gust, Parisian mimic; the Aerial Budds, trapeze artistes; pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P., Moss Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. D., Mr. B. Thornton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Kilgour; Asst. R. M., Mr. A. Devereux.—This week (twice nightly, matinée, Saturday, at 2.30): Albert Chevalier, in selections from his repertoire; Archie Naish, entertainer at the piano; Paulhan Team, football cyclists; Harry Grey, Australian nugget; Ida Barr, comedienne; Van der Koors, quack illusionists; Olive Armidale, soubrette; the Merry Harlequinaders, in mirth and melody; pictures.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—L. & M., Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in "The Mill Girl and the Miner." The company includes: Messrs. Stuart Lomath, R. Malcolm Strachan, Hugh Travers, Sam Roberts, Tom Armitage, Charles Trevor, Harry Emmerson, W. Myers, Reginald Page, John Strong, Tom Woods, Misses Catherine May, Ellen Owen-Lomath, Kitty Johnson, and Connie Tremayne. Next week: "The Face at the Window."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—This week (twice nightly): Viennese Trio in musical comedy; Doughty and Laney present "A Woman's Ways"; Eliss Seebach, vocalist; Chas. Cardon, light comedian; Durant Bros. in "Everything"; Fred Barnes, comedian; Lil Hawthorne, comedienne; and pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week: Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon in musical entertainment; Lillie Langtry, the electric spark; Mlle. Wanda, gymnast; Fred Leyton, comedian; Bertrand Banks, mimic; Albert Le Fre, comedian; Albert Wyndham and company in "Prince Arthur; or, the Days of King John" (Mona Shepard as the Prince); Josh Clifton presents Six Ceylons in "A Dream in an Opium Den."

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Albert Sember presents "The Old Home." The company includes: Mr. Lonnen Meadows, Miss Louie Campbell, Miss Nancy Lawrence, Miss Lilian Burns, Mr. Albert Sember, Mr. Leonard Harrison, Mr. Cuthbert Taylor, Mr. G. Lambert Williams, Mr. Sidney James. Next week: "The Pride of the Prairie."

BORO' THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Jessie Danvers and company, in "The Key"; Egien and Percival, in "Called for the Rent"; The Six Geraldos, in juggling act; and pictures.

NORTHWICH.

THE NEW PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Hughes and Hamilton; R. M., Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Harry Tate's company in "Motoring"; Miss Gertie Harris, vocalist; G. H. Ditchburn, basso; W. P. Wentley, the White Highlander; J. A. Wilson and Private Towser; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week: Miss Isa Bowman's company in "The Girl in the Picture." The company includes: Messrs. Frank Barclay, Bert Beswick, Gregory Scott, Besley Beltram, Tom Squire, Arnold Dean, Miles. Vera Davis, Kitty Kirwan, Peggy Phyl, Lilian Grey, Dora Waugh, Kitty Seneco, Wynne Bronte, Nora Hardt, Gertrude Davis, Jessie Compton, Dora Graves, Mora Mabelle, Messrs. Henry Hyne, Lance Stafford, Hubert Godfrey, Claude Farrow, Jack Callan, and Isa Bowman. Matinée on Saturday at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week (twice nightly): Marie Lloyd, comedienne; Jack Walsh, comedian; Nan Chester, comedienne; May Mara, in scena; "In the Shadows of the Pyramids"; Leighton and Lindford, trapezists and dancers; Mark Leslie, rag-timer; Rebla, juggler; and pictures. Matinée on Saturday at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: Mabel Kempton, Scottish soprano; Donald Keir, Scottish bass vocalist; and pictures.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—This week: Dan Rocker, light comedy star; Peggy Wyse, in rag-time; and pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Howard Finney; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—"The Dancing Mistress" is attracting large audiences, and the company of Mr. Geo. Edwardes get a well-deserved reception. The name-part is played by Miss Dora Fracer with charming vivacity, her singing and dancing being the feature of the performance. Miss Ada Palmer looks to the life the prim and severe schoolmistress; while Miss Daphne Glenne makes an adequate representative of Bella Peach. Miss Rita Presano sparkles with fun as the gay and irrepressive Mlle. Touchet; and unlimited humour is evolved by Miss Luna Love from the rôle of Jeanie McTavish. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield's interpretation of Teddy Cavanagh is full of fire and determination, and his musical numbers are capitally rendered. Mr. Guy Le Feuvre sings delightfully and acts with earnestness throughout; and an excellent exponent of Lord Lyndale is seen in Mr. Harold E. Pearce. In a quiet way Mr. Edward D'Arcy is hugely amusing as Widdicombe; and minor rôles are well undertaken by Miss Mabel Munroe, Miss Maud Andrew, Mr. Reginald Hunter, Mr. David Miller, and Mr. Hugh Larkin.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrook; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney Twinn.—That evergreen play, "Man to Man," is being well exploited by Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's company. Mr. Henry Holland gives a quiet and thoughtful exposition of Matthew Ellerton. Mr. Stanley Vine makes a reliant, manly and interesting figure of George Gordon; and Mr. Dennis Clyde sketches Richard Ellerton in noteworthy style. As the Rev. Philip Ormond, Mr. Charles Stacey convincingly sustains this popular character. In the trying and pathetic rôle of Ethel Maythorne the audience warmly recognise the efforts of Miss Beatrice Hone; a capital sketch of Gipsy Madge is drawn by Miss Agnes Kingston; and Miss Lilian Murray does excellently as Lavinia Love. A clever representation of Bill Burkley, the sham invalid convict, is supplied by Mr. Clifford Bown; and valuable help is given by Miss Alice Newton (Mary) and Mr. Bruce Williams (Samuel Plumtree).

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—Herbert Darnley's latest farce, "Say Nothing," is excellently staged, dressed and played. The fun-making is led by Jack Williams, who has capital support from a large array of artistes. Comedy on novel lines is featured by Nixon Grey, in a whimsical absurdity, entitled "The Zigzag Path"; Wild, Willie and West submit a welcome diversion in their acrobatic feats, with a nice flavour of humour; Frances Letty proves an energetic comedienne and dancer; and Ethel Loftus submits two enjoyable songs. In the musical duologue, "Early Closing Night," Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville are accorded a hearty reception; and the musical and vocal mélange of May Erne and Ern Chester makes a pleasing turn. George Benson mimics smartly; and a breezy note of humour is contributed by Peter and Potts.

HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wright.—Walter Erard's company of Vaudevillians have brought their entertainment to a high level. Beautifully costumed and in a gorgeous setting they dance, sing and flit about the stage amidst the hearty applause and enjoyment of the audience. The startling acrobatic feats neatly accomplished by the Werds Brothers are admirably relieved by capital fooling; Horace White submits some clever nonsense in his ventriloquial sketch; the Richardini Trio of gymnasts give a dexterous and highly sensational turn; several merry moments emanate from the singing and dancing act of the Six Buster Browns; Hebrew humour has a couple of versatile exponents in Young and Evans; while due reward is accorded Beatrice Allen, comedienne, and Tom Burton, comedian.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. Geo. A. Street's company in "The Cattle Thief." The company includes: Cheyenne Bill, Mr. Willie Bishop, Mr. Will E. Moss, Mr. Terry MacGovern, Mr. J. Jackman, Mr. Harry Leslie, Mr. F. Drury, Mr. Albert Paine, Mr. Frank West, Mr. J. Ashworth, Mr. J. Copeland, Mr. J. Webb, Mr. W. Hilton, Mr. W. Henry, Mr. W. Hicks, Mr. S. Turner, Miss Ethel Wynne Mathews, Miss Mabel Norrie, Miss Dora Marriott, and Miss Nellie Statham.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.— L., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. G. J. J. Kelly.—This week: The Five Sollies, Harry Witmark, Attilla Brothers, and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme.—This week: Mr. Harry Foxwell and company in "Only a Mill Girl." The company includes: Messrs. John Burton, Jack McCaig, Harry C. Robinson, Rupert S. Carlton, Bernard Lovett, Edwin Clarke, Roy Gordon, J. Perry, Maurice, Lambert, Joseph Foster, T. Henry Melton, Bertram Taylor, Tom Myers, H. Snow, Miss Daisie Cook, Miss Emmie Dorris, and Miss Alice Greenwood. Matinée: Thursday, 2.15. Next week: "'Midst Pleasures and Palaces."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes' company in "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Lionel Victor, Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne, Mr. Norman Greene, Mr. Arthur Brooke, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Alfred H. Majilton, Mr. Arthur H. Jenner, Mr. Cameron Carr, Miss Mary Ridley, Miss Connie St. Clair, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Maidie Andrews, and Miss Ethel Erskine; dances by Miss Renee Reel and Mr. Garnet Wilson. Next week: closed. Monday, March 24: "Brewster's Millions."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"MOTHER'S BILL."

A Play, in One Act, by Mary Burnham, Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Monday, March 10.

Mrs. Merritt .....Miss Maud Morris
Mary Merritt .....Miss Ethel Russell
Bill Merritt .....Mr. Paul Smythe

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

The scene of this pleasant little domestic play is the kitchen in Mrs. Merritt's cottage, and the time an afternoon in summer. The old lady is asleep in her chair, and the first person to appear is her son, Bill. The latter is a workman, grimy and in overalls. He does not disturb his mother; but, with an affectionate comment, decides to give her a surprise by quietly changing his attire and appearing to her, when she wakes, clean and trim. He goes into a pantry to wash and shave. While he is so employed, Mrs. Merritt's daughter, Mary, enters, and promptly wakes up her mother. It transpires that to-day is the latter's birthday, but she has something on her mind. There is an unpaid bill of £1 16s. 10d., which the grocer has urgently called for; and it is the first time during forty years of wifehood and widowhood that the old lady has been dunned for money. She has promised to pay the first thing in the morning. But how? Mary advises that Bill be asked to find the money. The mother, however, declines, on the grounds that confession of such a thing might disturb Bill's good opinion of her. There is another way of settling the matter. She has another daughter, away in service, from whom she has been in the habit of receiving £2 as a present every birthday; and, of course, it will come again to-day. She is, in fact, relying on it, though the postman is late. Pending the latter's arrival, the old lady suggests a cup of tea. She finds, however, that she cannot get into the pantry for the purpose of filling the kettle. Bill, in fact, has been listening to the conversation, and does not want to be discovered. With the reflection that "Bill will open the door when he comes home," the mother gives up the attempt to make tea. The postman arrives at last, bringing her daughter's letter and a parcel; but, much to the disappointment and the distress of the old lady, the letter contains no money. It explains that as the mother has been in the habit of spending the £2 on others instead of on herself, this time the present is a black silk dress, for which she has often expressed a desire. What about the grocer's bill now? Presently the pantry door opens softly, and Bill, unseen by either, escapes upstairs. When Mary has gone he returns, to deal as kindly with his mother as he may. The latter, disappointed and in sore trouble, makes a futile attempt to explain the matter of the debt. Bill evades, and will not listen to anything but what he desires her to say, in agreement with his own intention and proposal. He tells her he is going to make her a birthday present of £2, which she is to spend as she likes, without troubling to tell him a word about it. This, of course, is Bill's own way of liquidating his responsibility, without allowing his mother to think that his faith in her might be in any way disturbed. It is neatly done, and Bill winds up by telling his mother that he is known at the works as "Mother's Bill."

There is a homely and gracious quality about the play which ensured it a friendly reception, and which was clearly and realistically brought out by the cast. Miss Maud Morris played with a very tactful sympathy as Mrs. Merritt; Miss Ethel Russell gave a capital delineation of the uncheerful Mary; and Mr. Paul Smythe submitted an equally effective performance as Bill.

A BIRMINGHAM THEATRE'S JUBILEE.

The Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, celebrates its 50th anniversary this week, and in view of the fact, that house is shortly to be entirely reconstructed. It is interesting to look back upon the history of what has been one of the leading provincial theatres in the country.

Originally built in 1856, for musical performances, at a cost of £12,000, the hall became known as the Royal Music Hall Operetta House in 1862, and in the year 1863 was given the name of the Prince of Wales' Theatre. At that time Mr. Swanborough, of the Swanborough family, who controlled the merry little Strand Theatre, produced several successful pantomimes there, his last production being in 1865-6, under the title of "Little Bo-Peep; or, Queen Butterfly's Ball, or King Grass Hopper's Feast in Birmingham of Olden Times." The scenes included Birmingham Market Place, the ancient homestead of Aston, and the exterior of Aston Hall, which rendered it particularly interesting. In 1866 the property was purchased by Mr. James Rodgers, who, having at once let it to a Mrs. Macready owing to the fact that he was unable to take up his duties straight away, experienced some little difficulty in afterwards laying possession to it.

In 1870 Mr. J. L. Toole appeared at the theatre as Dick Dolland in "Uncle Dick's Darling," being supported by Mr. Henry Irving in the part of Chevenix. It is interesting to recall that this was the year of the first of Irving's great London triumphs. During the same season Mr. Wilson Barrett and Miss Heath appeared in "East Lynne." In 1872 Mr. and Mrs. Kendal—she then played under the name of Madge Robertson—appeared in "Pygmalion and Galatea," and there was a further visit from Mr. Toole in a charming little play—"Off the Line." In 1877 Mr. Edward Terry made his first appearance at the Prince of Wales' Theatre as a star actor, and in 1879 Beerbohm Tree appeared there in a comic opera "Madame Favart," though not then as a star.

The Prince of Wales' Theatre, among other things, became the Birmingham home of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, presented so admirably by the famous D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., who made frequent visits during this period. Amongst the well-known names on record as visitors to the theatre it is interesting to recall that in May, 1896, Little Tich appeared in "Lord Tom Noddy," in a cast which included Miss Mabel Love.

After the death of Mr. James Rodgers, his son, Captain Rodgers, assumed the leadership as proprietor and manager, until eventually a syndicate, under the style of Rodgers, Ltd., purchased the lease in 1898, and continued to maintain the traditions of the house most worthily, under the admirable management of Mr. J. F. Graham, who was shortly joined by Mr. Henry Johnston in the capacity of acting-manager. Mr. Graham's first pantomime was an eye-opener for the Midland theatre goer, the cast including Mr. Bert Gilbert, Mr. Eugene Stratton, Mr. Fred Zola, Mr. Paul Cinquevalli, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Arthur Lupino, Miss Florence Lloyd, and Miss Marie Dainton.

REPERTORY AT GLASGOW.

Mr. Alfred Wareing, who was managing-director of the Glasgow Repertory Theatre since its inception, is this time venturing on a season on his own account in the Royalty Theatre, and made an excellent start on Tuesday. A particularly well-filled house welcomed the opening play, which was "A Gauntlet," by Bjornstjerne Bjornson. [illegible]ling as it does with the vexed question of pre[illegible]ial purity, it can hardly be called a pleasant [illegible]and though labelled a comedy in the pro[illegible]ue, an atmosphere of tragic gloom pervades [illegible]m first to last.

[illegible]ing, however, of the various parts was [illegible]pensation for any regrets regarding the [illegible]s Ruth Mackay as Svava Riis, the young girl who throws over her lover when she learns that he has had a liaison in the past with a married woman, acted her part with intense feeling and pathos. Mr. Frank Conroy as the lover was well suited, and both before and after the quarrel with his sweetheart, his performance was particularly good. Miss Sybil Noble as the mother of Svava proved herself an actress of much resource, and her fidgety husband was a clever study at the hands of Mr. George Etton. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury as Dr. Nordan gave a notable performance, and in addition was responsible for the production of the play. Mr. Richard Fielding as Christensen and Miss Gertrude Sterroll as Mrs. Christensen faithfully reproduced two familar types of conventionally moral and superior people. Miss Helen Brown as Margit, Mr. G. A. Seager as Hoff, and Mr. Guy Addison as Thomas, completed a good cast. The audience was most appreciative, and Miss Ruth Mackay and Mr. H. A. Saintsbury were recalled at the end of each act. With the opening of Mr. Wareing's season, Mr. J. Carpenter is again at his old post as acting-manager of the Royalty Theatre.

"PHYLL."

Play, in Three Acts, by Cicely Hamilton, Produced at the Brighton West Pier Theatre on Monday, March 10.

Betty Ponsonby .....Miss Zola Woodruff
Olive Ponsonby .....Miss Oliva Novina
Mabel Ponsonby .....Miss Cicily Fairfield
Maid .....Miss Agnes Bain
Cathy Chester .....Miss Helen Mackenzie
Phyllis Chester .....Miss Mona Limerick
Jack Folliott .....Mr. J. H. Irvine
Mrs. Ponsonby .....Miss Ine Cameron
Waiter .....Mr. Arthur Phillips
Mr. Westmacott .....Mr. Claude Haviland

Miss Cicely Hamilton's new play, "Phyll," performed for the first time last Monday afternoon, by Mr. B. Iden Payne's company, at the Brighton West Pier Theatre, was accorded a very hearty reception by the large audience. The story—slight, unemotional, and somewhat daring in character—is cleverly written, and the stirring incidents command rapt attention during the whole of the three acts.

In the first act—the schoolroom of Mrs. Ponsonby's country house—Phyllis Chester is installed as governess to the unruly children of Mrs. Ponsonby. Betty Ponsonby is rude to Cathy Chester, who has called in to see her sister; the young governess promptly boxes Betty's ears, and a scene ensues.

Jack Folliott, a rich young man, a friend of the Ponsonbys, is staying in the house, and makes peace. Jack and Phyllis indulge in cigarettes, but soon Mrs. Ponsonby disturbs them. That lady realises that Jack is deeply interested in Phyllis, and having hopes that he will become her son-in-law, is very angry with Phyllis, and orders her to pack up her things and leave the house at once. Jack suggests that Phyllis, who has been leading anything but a happy life with the Ponsonbys, should go away with him; and the young girl does not hesitate in acceding to his wishes. Her existence has been well nigh unbearable, and she hopes to find happiness in the change.

In the second act—an hotel at Mentone—she is living with Jack and realising the happiness she anticipated. Her sister appears upon the scene, and tries to persuade her to give up her irregular life. Phyllis, however, is content to remain as she is, and—unlike her sister—speaks slightingly of the sanctity of marriage. There is a powerful scene between the two sisters, and Phyllis says, "I'd as soon be looked down upon for being wicked as I'd be looked down upon for being poor"; and also, without feeling ashamed, proclaims herself as "the woman living in adultery."

In the third act—at Mentone—times are changed with Jack. Calamity falls upon him in the shape of ruin, owing to the defalcations of his agent, and he feels that the only course open to him is to venture upon a fresh life in the Colonies. He finds he really loves Phyllis, and that she is devoted to him. She begs him to take her with him, and he is willing to do so, but on one condition—that she becomes his wife. At first she refuses, but when he insists she consents to the marriage ceremony.

The various characters were admirably represented. Miss Mona Limerick merits unstinted praise for her admirable and convincing impersonation of Phyllis Chester. She was powerfully effective in the scene with her sister, and also in the final act, when she determines to throw in her lot with Jack in the Colonies. Warm commendation must also be accorded Mr. J. H. Irvine for his very fine embodiment of Jack Folliott, his acting being marked by intense earnestness. Miss Helen Mackenzie was distinctly impressive as Cathy Chester; Miss Ine Cameron gave an excellent representation of Mrs. Ponsonby, and was seen to great advantage in the first act. Mr. Claude Haviland was well placed as Mr. Westmacott; the Ponsonby children had able exponents in Miss Zola Woodruff, Miss Oliva Novina, and Miss Cicily Fairfield; and pleasing support was rendered by Miss Agnes Bain (maid) and Mr. Arthur Phillips (waiter).

"THE STAR TURN."

A Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Arthur W. Field, Produced at the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, on Monday, March 10.

Joe Dobbin .....Mr. Will Lindsay
Reuben Rules .....Mr. Gilbert Rogers
William .....Mr. Charles Byron
Susie Green .....Miss Minnie Myrle
Gussie Vayne ..... } Mr. Jack Jewel
Monsieur Quick ..... }

Mr. Field's little "merrilogue" is simply a case of mistaken identity. At the smokeroom of The King's Head, we learn from a waiting-maid and a lounger at the bar that the celebrated Yorkshire vocalist, John Dobbin, has written for rooms and is expected every minute. Joe Dobbin, a farmer's man, calls at the hotel for refreshment and is mistaken for the great vocalist, who is supposed to be travelling incognito. Joe, much to his astonishment, is feasted and fêted and subsequently he is approached by Reuben Rules, a theatrical agent, who is under the impression that he has tracked down, and is dealing with, the great singer. Joe enters into the spirit of the thing, and without any qualms of conscience signs a contract for £200 per week, and accepts £50 on account. Rules hurries him at once to the Empire, but he is horrified when Joe appears on the stage. The fiasco is complete, but Joe, who has to make an inglorious exit, reminds the bewildered agent that a bargain's a bargain, that the contract has been signed, and that he never said that he was a singer. The whole thing is chaotic burlesque, with Dobbin for its central figure. Mr. Lindsay's Yorkshire accent is rich in the extreme, and his humour is irresistible. He makes the very most of his opportunities, and the support is good. Mr. Rogers is an ideal agent, brusque and business-like. Miss Myrle daintily fills the part of Susie, the barmaid. Mr. Byron is smart as the waiter, William; and, in the dual rôle of Gussie Vayne, the bar lounger, and the conductor of the Empire Mr. Jewell is capital. The sketch, which presents many opportunities for improvement in the stage appointments, was very well received.

On Sunday evening, Mr. H. M. Walbrook will read a paper to the Playgoers' Club on "Ireland on the Stage and Off." The chair will be taken by Mr. Norreys Connell.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

FEBRUARY.

"The Son and Heir," play, in four acts, by Gladys Unger; Strand, Feb. 1.
"A Love Passage," comedy, in one act, adapted from W. W. Jacobs' story by the author and Philip E. Hubbard; Little, Feb. 3.
"The Collier's Lass," drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Feb. 3.
"Pétrouchka," burlesque scenes, in four tableaux, by MM. Alexandre Benois and Igor Stravinsky, music by Igor Stravinsky (Russian Ballet); Covent Garden, Feb. 3.
"The Arbour of Refuge, comedy, in one act, by Gilbert Cannan; Little, Feb. 4.
"Three," modern comedy, in three acts, translated by Miss D. St. Cyr, from the Italian of Roberto Bracco, and adapted by Gilbert Cannan; Little, Feb. 4.
"Trust the People," play in three acts, by Stanley Houghton; Garrick, Feb. 6.
"The Curate's Dilemma," farcical sketch, by Dr. Hamilton Seymour; Rehearsal, Feb. 6.
"A Matter of Money," play, in three acts, by Cicely Hamilton (originally produced as "The Cutting of the Knot," at the Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, March 13, 1911), Pioneer Players; Little, Feb. 9.
"The Younger Generation," by Stanley Houghton, transferred from Haymarket to Duke of York's, Feb. 10.
"An Adventure of Aristide Pujol," by Wm. J. Locke, transferred from Haymarket to Duke of York's, Feb. 10.
"The King's Blessing," play, in five acts, by Walter Savage Cooper (amateurs); Cripplegate Theatre, Feb. 10.
"Catherine the Great," play, in three acts, by R. Henderson Bland and A. E. Manning Foster; Cosmopoli's Theatre, Feb. 11.
"Eliza Comes to Stay," farcical comedy, in three acts, by H. V. Esmond (originally produced as "Sandy and his Eliza," at the West Pier, Brighton, Sept. 30, 1912); Criterion, Feb. 12.
"The Pretenders," translation, by William Archer, of "Kongsemnerne," an historic drama, in five acts, by Henrik Ibsen; Haymarket, Feb. 13.
"L'Oiseau de Feu," fairy ballet, by MM. Fokine and Igor Stravinsky (Russian Ballet); Covent Garden, Feb. 13.
"Ask Quesbury," farce, in three acts, by T. Herbert Lee; Globe, Feb. 14.
"Lady Noggs," comedy, in three acts, by Cicely Hamilton, adapted from the story by Edgar Jepson; Comedy, Feb. 15.
"A Gauntlet," play, by Bjornstjerne Bjornson, translated by R. Farquharson Sharp (The Play Actors); Court, Feb. 16.
"The White Slave Girl," drama, in four acts, by Joseph N. Wharncliffe; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Feb. 17.
"The King's Minstrel," play, in one act, by F. Randle Ayrton; Coronet, Feb. 17.
"The Brothers Karamazov," drama, in five acts, from "Dostoievski," by Jacques Copeau and Jean Croué, translation by Christopher St. John; Aldwych, Feb. 17.
"L'Après Midi d'un Faun," pastoral, by Claude Debussy, illustrated choreographically by Nijinsky (Russian Ballet); Covent Garden, Feb. 17.
"Oh! Oh!! Delphine!!!" musical comedy, in three acts, book and lyrics by C. M. S. McLellan, music by Ivan Caryll, founded on the French farce, "Villa Primrose," by George Berr and Marcel Guillemaud; Shaftesbury, Feb. 18.
"The Crystals," miniature magical play, by David Devant; St. George's Hall, Feb. 18.
"Nell Gwynne, the King's Favourite," play, in four acts; Lyceum, Feb. 19.
"The Mormon and His Wives," melodrama, in four acts, by H. F. Housden (originally produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, June 3, 1912); Elephant and Castle, Feb. 24.
"The Ruin of a Countess," drama, in four acts, by O. Silverstone and Miss G. H. Walton; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Feb. 24.
"As Dreams Are Made Of," play, by Wilfred Stephens (Black Cat Club); Rehearsal, Feb. 24.
"The Feminologist," potted melodrama, in two scenes, by Mariell Reed (Black Cat Club); Rehearsal, Feb. 24.
"Merely Players," lyrical comedy, by Frank Macrae (Black Cat Club); Rehearsal, Feb. 24.
"The Dream Woman," play, by Ena Hay Howe (Black Cat Club); Rehearsal, Feb. 24.
"The Way It's Done," play, in one act; Globe, Feb. 26.
"Le Dieu Bleu," Hindu legend, ballet, in one act, by MM. Jean Cocteau and De Madrazo, music by Reynaldo Hahn (Russian Ballet); Covent Garden, Feb. 27.

PROVINCES.

"Westward Ho!" drama, in three acts and a prologue, founded on Charles Kingsley's novel by Peggy Webling; Gaiety, Manchester, Feb. 1.
"Acting to Act," play, in one act, by Jack Hulbert; New Theatre, Cambridge, Feb. 3.
"The Shoemaker's Holiday," revival of Thomas Dekker's comedy (amateurs); New Theatre, Oxford, Feb. 4.
"The Right to Die," play, in one act, by Kathleen Lion; Repertory Theatre, Liverpool, Feb. 5.
"His Son," play, in four acts, by E. Henry Edwards and Edward Irwin; Winter Gardens, New Brighton, Feb. 10.
"The Password," piece, in one act, by Frank Ernest Potter; Avenue, Sunderland, Feb. 17.
"Seven Days," play, in three acts, by Mary Roberts Riehart and Avery Hopwood; Grand Opera House, Harrogate, Feb. 20.
"Her Side of the House," comedy, in three acts, by Lechmere Worrall and Miss Atté Hall; Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, Feb. 24.
"The Burglar and the Girl," duologue, by Matthew Boulton; Pavilion, Weymouth, Feb. 24.
"Queen Tara," tragedy, in three acts, by Darrell Figgis; Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Feb. 25.

REVIVALS.

"The Indian Mutiny," play, in five acts, by George Daventry; Princes, Feb. 5.
"The Twelve Pound Look," by J. M. Barrie; Duke of York's, Feb. 10.
"Twelfth Night," Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Feb. 15.

The run of the pantomime at the Royal Princess's, Glasgow, concluded on Saturday night, when a crowded and enthusiastic audience gathered to bid good-bye to "Goody Two-Shoes." All the principals were in great form, and the pantomime went with a fine swing. The bouquets, baskets, and sprays of flowers showered upon the ladies were simply overwhelming. The comedians, too, were in favour, the gift to Mr. Dan Whitley being apparently a large "scent bottle," containing heather dew or northern cream, or some other equally popular Scotch perfume. Miss Kitty Dale, Miss Jenny Hartley, the Sisters Emson, Mr. Harry Emerick, Mr. Billy Walters, Messrs. Damerell and Rutland, have all proved great favourites during the run, and before the curtain was finally rung down, the audience and the performers joined in "Auld lang syne" with great enthusiasm.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"CYRANO DE BERGERAC."

Four-Act Opera, in English, by Walter Damrosch and William J. Henderson.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

The production of this opera at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, on the 27th ult., aroused extraordinary interest, and was regarded as one of the most important events of the season. There were remarkable demonstrations at the end of each act, the company being recalled again and again. Mr. Damrosch, the composer, was summoned after the third act, and again at the close, and his speech of thanks was received with the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Henderson, the librettist, is music critic of the New York "Sun." He began the book of this opera about twelve years ago, but the work was "shelved" for several years. The original story has been closely followed, except in the last act. Instead of dying fifteen years after the battle of Arras of a blow administered by some enemy in the street, Cyrano is supposed to be fatally wounded in the battle, the last two acts of the drama being made into one by means of a "dark change." It has been pointed out that this is historically incorrect, and that the change obliterates much of the exquisite poetry of Rostand's drama; but the alteration is thought to be justified by the fact that it gives a more rapid, vivid, and effective close to the opera. For the sake of condensation the librettist also has welded the characters of De Guiche and Valvert into one, and has shorn Le Bret, Ragueneau, and the Duenna of their original proportions. As for the music, the passages in which the public is likely to be chiefly interested include the charming entrance air of Roxane, which is developed into a well-written ensemble; the duel scene, and the solo of Cyrano, "You stare! Yet I am a man," in the first act; the ensemble in the second act, in which the letter theme is developed admirably; the patter song of Ragueneau; the duet of Cyrano and Roxane; and the chorus of the Gascony cadets. In the third act the principal points are the soliloquy of Roxane at the fountain and her raillery at De Guiche; the several emotional outbursts of Cyrano, and his rendering of the lines:—

"Adam and Eve go into Paradise,
And I, the guardian angel, stay outside,"

as he sinks upon the stone seat after sending Christian and Roxane into the house to be married by the monk. In the fourth act the music of the death scene is very fine.

Rostand's play was first performed here in English at the Garden Theatre in 1898, with the late Richard Mansfield in the title-rôle and Miss Margaret Anglin as Roxane. Two years later "Cyrano de Bergerac" was produced as a comic opera at the Knickerbocker Theatre. Victor Herbert composed the music, and Francis Wilson appeared as Cyrano. The score was one of Victor Herbert's best, but Mr. Wilson's interpretation of the title-rôle failed to please the critics, and the opera was withdrawn after a brief run. The popular comedian revised his rendering of Cyrano, but the fiat had gone forth, and the second hearing was no more successful than the first. In the present version Mr. Pasquale Amato appears as Cyrano and Mme. Frances Alda as Roxane. In reviewing the performance, the New York "Times" says: "Mr. Amato won new laurels as Cyrano, a part in which he had to contend with some cherished memories. His impersonation denoted with rare intelligence, delicacy, and subtlety the spirit of the imperious, domineering swash-buckler, the romantic lover, the tender and self-sacrificing friend. His poses, gestures, facial play, and bodily carriage were admirably co-ordinated in their vivid expression, and he sang the music well. Mme. Alda gave an excellent representation of Roxane—one that should be set down as one of her best achievements not only in acting, but as well in singing. As Christian Mr. Riccardo Martin had a part none too grateful, for Christian cuts no enviable figure in the drama, but he presented it according to its nature. Messrs. Reiss as Ragueneau, Griswold as De Guiche, and Hinshaw as Le Bret made valuable contributions to the performance."

THE CALL OF THE STAGE.

Mr. Thos. F. Dunn, scenic artist at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, is very proud of the success made by his son, Gordon Dunn, in the panto. at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle. The "Evening Mail" of that city says:—Have you sat "in front" and watched the golf scene in the Tyne Theatre pantomime and laughed the moment the Scottish caddie entered, and before he has uttered a word? The majority of people, no doubt, who have seen the production, have undergone this experience. Then, when the caddie has only said a few words, the laughter has been added to, as he assumes a Glasgow dialect which is akin to two pieces of sandstone being rubbed together. The delineator of this typically Scottish caddie is Gordon Dunn, the clever son of a clever father, and he is not a Scotsman, but a Tynesider. He is but a youth, yet he has played in pantomime before, and will shine again doubtless on every subsequent appearance. His father, Mr. T. F. Dunn, the scenic artist, who is responsible for many of the fine settings in "Old King Cole," intended him to be also a scenic artist. Young Mr. Dunn spent three or four years in the paint room with his father, then he heard the stage a-calling. So he deserted the paint room for the boards, but he resorts to the paint room when he has not a stage engagement, and undertakes scenic work for theatres or exhibition purposes.

"THE INDIAN SCOUT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your report of above in last Saturday's issue you state that this drama was played for the first time in London last week at the New Middlesex Theatre. This is not correct, as I produced it at the Elephant and Castle Theatre on August 5 for a two weeks' run, and it has since visited. Stratford, Woolwich, and Poplar.—Yours faithfully,

GEO. A. DE GRAY.

Gaiety T., Houghton-le-Spring, March 11.

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SPORTING NOTES.

By SANTOI.

The National Hunt meeting at Cheltenham, splendid though the sport was in itself, has shown us very little concerning the Grand National. Ballyhackle "funked" his engagement in the Handicap Steeplechase; Fetlar's Pride for some reason did not go, though he is still in active work at Portslade; and Blowpipe went wide at a turn, lost his place, and was negligible. Highbridge, the American 'chaser, provided the surprise of the race by carrying his big burden of 12st. 9lb. into second place, in front of recent winners like General Fox and Gale II. It was a most promising performance, and proves that the American is really progressing in his National preparation. If this was really true form, it gives Highbridge the beating of Covertcoat in the National, taking a line through General Fox, for Covertcoat was a head and two pounds behind Hartigan's horse at Sandown.

What a pity Piggott's tumble at Hurst Park placed him *hors de combat*. If he could have ridden Bernstein at Cheltenham there is little doubt Sir Charles Assheton-Smith's young horse would have won the Juvenile Steeplechase. Kelly apparently could not control him, and when leading by twenty lengths Bernstein jumped so big that the jolt of landing shot Kelly out of the saddle. The horse did not fall. Indeed, he has never yet fallen at an obstacle in his life.

They are still rubbing it in to Coulthwaite. Mr. Bower Ismay scored another victory with Kenia in the Maiden Hurdle race. Indeed, the horses lately disbanded from Hednesford are enjoying an unnatural run of success. Possibly change of air and scene has had a stimulating effect upon them, and, of course, they were all in great fettle when they left. The luck they get, too, is almost supernatural. Tenbury's victory on Wednesday was entirely due to the mischance which put Bernstein out of the race, and many people who witnessed the race at Hurst Park last week declare that Comic Boy ought not to have beaten Ballyhist. At all events, there is no more profitable plan than to follow the horses at the moment regardless of price, distance, or weight. Will the vein of luck hold out until the Grand National? Someone was content to take £550 to £100 about Rathnally at Cheltenham on Thursday—a false price, but the best the bookmakers will lay, and, of course, the unfortunate backer is never given a voice in the matter of determining the rate of odds. What prices would they offer us if it were not for a little wholesome competition among themselves?

One of the greatest coups Hednesford had laid itself out for was unquestionably in the Imperial Cup with Rathlea. The Chester Cup winner's running in the County Hurdle at Cheltenham under a big penalty shows that he must have had goodness knows how much in hand in the Sandown race. He was shut in there, or probably his victory would have been more easily gained than it was. Gael Rhu met him on 18lb. better terms at Cheltenham, and was beaten three times as far. The victory of Lord Ninian, however, was a terrible blow to students of the book, and it would be interesting to hear something about the reason for this wonderful improvement in form displayed by Sir Peter Walker's horse. He was beaten out of sight in Wild Aster's race at Manchester on New Year's Day, and had run very badly in Katanga's race at Sandown in December. It is true that Lord Ninian defeated Rathlea at Blackpool on worse terms than they met this time, but that was more than a year ago.

Wantage, or at least one of its horses—Spanish Prince—has been attacked with the coughing scourge which played havoc with Mr. J. B. Joel's horses last year. Up to now the others, including the Lincolnshire horse, White Star, have escaped, but one never knows when this sort of thing may develop, and White Star is best left alone for the present at least. In any event he is not likely to be ready in time for Lincoln. Talana Hill was reported amiss in the middle of the week, but the scare only lasted a day, and the colt went well in the betting on Thursday, and was at work again, so there cannot be much the matter with him. He is pretty forward in condition, and a day or so on the easy list would not prejudice his chance at Lincoln.

R. Dawson has been very busy with Mordred lately, and if he succeeded in getting the horse back to his early three-year-old form, when he defeated The Story and other good horses in the March Stakes at Newmarket, what a certainty the Lincolnshire would be for him! I recollect his fine performance at Newmarket, on the strength of which he was backed for the Derby, but he did nothing worthy of his true form in the race or in any subsequent race last year. I thought Mordred strikingly well handicapped in the Cambridgeshire, and he is equally well treated at Lincoln. Dawson did not get Mordred until the autumn. He was trained by Davies at Michael Grove in the early part of the year. He is essentially a spring horse. It was in April that, as a two-year-old, he defeated the biggest field of the season at Newbury, and again, as a three-year-old, Mordred's most notable feat was achieved in the "month of fools."

SELECTIONS.

Newbury to-day promises some highly entertaining sport. The United Services Hurdle ought to fall to Lililine, who won over this course in December, and the Newbury Steeplechase looks a good thing for Domino, though Clondalkin will beat more than beat him. In the Open Steeplechase I fancy the chance of Robin has arrived. He is always there or thereabouts. If The Guv'nor runs he can win the Open Hurdle, and Noble Roy, whose Sandown form does not look bad after Chapelizod's Cheltenham victory, should take the United Services Hunters Cup.

At Dunstall Park on Monday Shelswell stands out in the Madeley Maiden Hurdle; McDowry or Ballsirenen should win the Dudley Hurdle, and Fredith the Stayers' Hurdle Handicap. Old Repp has a chance in the Stanton Steeplechase, and Scarlet Button, who was unlucky in the Midlands this week, should win the Thorneycroft Maiden Steeplechase.

On Tuesday Powder and Shot ought to win again in the Grendon Hurdle. The Mink or Midas will win the Hagley Steeplechase, and Mimsie has a soft job in the Dunstall Four-Year-Old Hurdle.

Mr. Edwin T. Heys will lecture before the Bradford Playgoers' Society on Sunday evening on "Hindle Wakes."

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EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The South Eastern and Chatham Railway will issue excursion tickets to Paris by a special service, via Folkestone and Calais, leaving Victoria (S. E. and C. R.) at 2.50 p.m. on March 20, reaching Paris at 10.50 p.m., also via Folkestone and Boulogne, by the services leaving Charing Cross at 10 a.m. and 2.20 p.m., on March 19, 21, 22, 23 and 24, and at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 20, and by the night mail service leaving Charing Cross at 9 p.m. each evening from March 19 to 24 inclusive, via Dover and Calais. Returning from Paris at 8.25 a.m. or 2.30 p.m. via Boulogne, or 9.20 p.m. via Calais any day within 15 days. A special service to the French Riviera, via Folkestone and Calais, by which cheap tickets to Cannes, Nice, Monte Carlo, Mentone, etc., will be issued, leaving Victoria (S. E. and C. R.) at 2.50 p.m. on March 20. A cheap excursion to Boulogne will leave Charing Cross at 2.20 p.m. on Saturday, March 22, and Sunday, March 23; returning at 11.45 a.m., or 7.10 p.m. on Easter Monday. A Motor Show will be held at Boulogne from March 20 to 25 inclusive, between which dates the Casino will also be open. Similar tickets will also be issued to Calais by the 9 a.m. and the 9 p.m. services from London, also by the special service leaving Victoria at 2.50 p.m. on March 20. On Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday, special day excursions will be run to Boulogne and Calais. Cheap tickets to Brussels by the Calais, Boulogne and Ostend routes will be issued from March 19 to 24 inclusive, available for fifteen days. Special cheap eight-day return tickets to Amsterdam, the Hague, and other Dutch towns, via Queenboro' and Flushing, will be issued from March 19 to 24 inclusive, leaving Victoria and Holborn at 9.55 a.m. Cheap eight-day return tickets to Ostend will be issued from March 19 to 24 inclusive. During the holidays the Continental services will run as usual with the addition of extra boat trains from Victoria (S. E. and C. R.) on Thursday, March 20, viz., 9.45 a.m. Folkestone-Boulogne, 2.50 p.m. Folkestone-Calais, and 8.45 p.m. Dover-Calais and Dover-Ostend. Special excursions will also be run to the South Coast, and full particulars of the continental and home excursions, extension of time for certain return tickets, alteration in train services, &c., are given in the special Holiday Programme, to be obtained at any of the Company's stations or agents.

On the occasion of Wye Steeplechases on Wednesday next, the South Eastern and Chatham Railway will run a special train, leaving Charing Cross at 11.40 a.m., Waterloo 11.43 a.m., London Bridge 11.48 a.m., first class only, return day fare, 11s. 6d., including admission to the course. A special train, third class only, return day fare, 7s. 3d. (including admission to the course), will leave Charing Cross 11.5 a.m., Waterloo 11.10 a.m., London Bridge 11.15 a.m., and New Cross 11.20 a.m. Special service from Ashford, Redhill, Edenbridge, Penshurst, Sevenoaks (Tub's Hill), Maidstone East and West, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Brighton, Lewes, Eastbourne, Hastings, Deal, Margate Sands, Ramsgate Town, Canterbury West, Dover Harbour, Folkestone Junction, Folkestone Central, and Shorncliffe.

The Brighton and South Coast Railway have issued a handy little programme giving full particulars of many cheap tickets from London to the numerous resorts served by them, a copy of which will be sent on application to the Superintendent of the Line, London Bridge Station. The Pullman sixty-minute express, the Southern Belle, from Victoria to Brighton at 11 a.m., will run on Easter Monday as usual. A special fifteen-day excursion to Dieppe, Rouen, and Paris will be run via the Newhaven-Dieppe Royal Mail route. The tickets will be issued on Thursday, March 20, by a special afternoon express service, also by the express day and night services on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, March 19 to 24. Special cheap return tickets to Dieppe will be issued on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, March 20 to 24, available for return on any day up to and including Tuesday, March 25. The Casino will be open at Dieppe for the holidays. The usual excursion to the Riviera (Nice, Cannes, and Mentone) will be run from Victoria, 10 a.m., on Thursday, March 20. Cheap excursions to Rome, Madrid, and Seville will also be run.

The Dieppe Casino will be open, as usual, from March 20 to 24 inclusive.

THE IBSEN CLUB.

A very good performance of "The Master Builder" was given in its entirety by the Ibsen Club at the Studio, 65a, Long Acre, on March 9, under the direction of Miss Catherine Lewis. Miss Pax Robertson repeated her success in the part of Hilda Wangel; Mr. Rathmell Wilson gave an intelligent reading of the character of the unintelligible Halvard Solness; and Miss Gwen John was mournfully morbid as the disappointed wife, Aline. Mr. Edward Montague and Miss C. Robertson were both good as the other members of "the younger generation." Ragnor Brovik and Kala Fosle, and Messrs. W. F. Lambe and J. Shiel successfully filled the parts of Dr. Herdal and the elder Brovik.

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EASTER on the CONTINENT.

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Brussels (via Calais or Boulogne)	15	59/3	38/3	25/-
Do. (via Ostend)	15	49/9	31/6	20/3
Amsterdam (via Flushing)	8	37/1	25/6	—
The Hague (via Flushing)	8	32/10	22/5	—
Calais	3	24/-	—	15/6
Do.	8	31/6	26/6	20/6
Ostend	8	31/10	23/10	15/9
French Riviera (via Calais)	30	192/-	132/-	—

EASTER IN THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND.

WEEK-END TICKETS AVAILABLE BY ANY TRAIN (Mail and Boat Expresses excepted) will be issued from LONDON and certain Suburban Stations to the undermentioned Stations on March 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, available for return on or before March 25th, but not on day of issue.

	RETURN FARES. 1Cl.	2Cl.	3Cl.		RETURN FARES. 1Cl.	2Cl.	3Cl.
Bexhill	14/-	10/6	8/-	Margate	15/-	11/-	8/-
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Hastings	14/-	10/6	8/-	Tunbridge Wells	8/6	5/6	4/6
Herne Bay	14/-	10/-	7/-	Walmer	18/6	12/6	9/-
Hythe	17/6	12/6	9/-	Westgate	15/-	11/-	8/-
Littlestone	16/-	12/-	9/-	Whitstable Town	14/-	10/-	7/-

CHEAP DAY and HALF-DAY EXCURSIONS on GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER SUNDAY, and EASTER MONDAY from LONDON to certain Seaside and Country Stations

CRYSTAL PALACE (HIGH LEVEL) on EASTER MONDAY. Cheap Return Tickets (including admission) will be issued from London.

For particulars of Excursions, Alterations in Train Services, etc., see Easter Holiday Programme, obtainable at any of the Company's Agencies or Stations.

FRANCIS H. DENT, General Manager.

MISS ESMÉ BERINGER'S MATINEE.

A fair level of merit was attained by all the three new plays which formed the programme at the matinée given by Miss Esmé Beringer at the Court Theatre on Tuesday. The house was filled by an appreciative audience, who gave frequent evidence of enjoyment. Two of the pieces were chiefly in comedy vein, the first being a comedietta by Henry Seton, entitled

"THE ABSENT-MINDED HUSBAND."

James Soutter .....Mr. Edmund Breon
Lily Lancaster .....Miss Vera Beringer
Daisy Dimrose .....Miss Daisy Thimm

Beyond the fact that the fun is a little forced and the sentiment equally strained, the above played proved interesting, though hardly a typical episode of the life of the chorus lady. One charming specimen of that class is Daisy Dimrose, who receives a visit from her friend, Lily Lancaster, and confides to her the fact that she is in love. Lily has little esteem for the opposite sex, and with reason, for she had been deserted by her husband eight years ago. She urges Daisy to be careful, and her warning is confirmed in a remarkable way, for when Daisy's lover comes to visit her he proves to be no other than Lily's recreant husband. He binds his wife over to silence, threatening if she spoils his "game" to demand possession of their son, who is the apple of her eye. Lily, however, determines at all costs to prevent him deceiving her friend, and, pretending to be still in love with him, gets her husband to kiss her just as his new sweetheart enters the room. The average chorus girl is neither quite so refined as Miss Daisy Thimm made her, nor quite so vulgar as Miss Vera Beringer represented her to be, but both actresses made much of their parts, the former being particularly charming and the latter very diverting. Mr. Edmund Breon as the husband gave a clever character study of an ineffable cad.

Second in the programme was a play, by A. Rochester, entitled

"THE CRADLE."

Matthew Steere .....Mr. Lionel Atwill
Sarah Steere .....Miss Esmé Beringer
Timothy Jeal .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson

This play is the property of Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie, and was produced by arrangement with them. It strikes a very human note. For seven long years it has been the chief regret of Farmer Steere and his devoted wife that they have no children, and that the name is likely to die out with its owner. When the curtain rises, however, Sarah Steere is found to be engaged making baby clothes, and goes so far as to purchase an old-fashioned cradle from a pedlar who calls, allowing him to believe that she intends it for her sister, who is expecting another addition to the family. The cradle had belonged to a servant who had been betrayed and given birth to a boy, but had drowned herself when the child died. John Steere returns home, and, seeing the cradle, is moved to confess that he is the father of the dead child. He is loaded with reproaches by the wife, but his grief at the loss of his son and his evident sorrow for his sin win her forgiveness, and a happy ending is secured by Sarah's announcement that the cradle is likely, after all, to come into use in the Steeres' homestead.

Miss Esmé Beringer imparted deep feeling and a wealth of expression into her performance of the wronged wife, who has to submit not only to the knowledge of her husband's infidelity, but to his taunt as to her barrenness. It was due chiefly to Miss Beringer's highly artistic performance that the curtain had repeatedly to be raised at the end of the play. A realistic picture of the strong man broken by emotion is to be credited to Mr. Lionel Atwill, and Mr. H. O. Nicholson gave a characteristic rendering of a country pedlar.

The last and perhaps the best item of the bill was a play, by Morley Roberts and Henry Seton, entitled "THE MORNING POST."

Bertram Michelmore .....Mr. Rudge Harding
Eve Michelmore .....Miss Ellen O'Malley
Chalmers .....Mr. W. R. Stavely

A sense of humour is highly developed in the above playlet, which proved greatly amusing. It is the simple story, embellished by smart dialogue, of a wife who comes home after a night out to find her husband, whose return was unexpected, awaiting her. The husband has his suspicions regarding a certain army captain, whom he had forbidden the house. The wife explains that she has been to the theatre with a lady friend, with whom she had spent the night prior to her departure for Australia, and a letter she had previously written to her husband bears out her assertion. The husband believes her statement implicitly, until, opening the morning paper, he finds the theatre had been burnt down during the last evening's performance! Mr. Rudge Harding was excellent as the pedantic husband, causing frequent laughter, and Miss Ellen O'Malley played capitally as the presumably peccant wife. Mr. W. R. Stavely supplied a humorous study of a discerning manservant.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

PATRONS' FUND.

At Bechstein Hall on Friday evening, March 7, the Kinze Quartet, comprising Messrs. Herbert Kinze, Thomas Peatfield, Ernest Yonge, and Cedric Sharpe, began the concert with a well-written "Miniature Fantasy" in F Minor and Major. Eugéne Goussens, junr., which was very carefully rendered. Later in the programme they performed two Novelettes for strings by Mr. Philip Levine, the latter work being decidedly meritorious. Miss Dorothy de Vin, a young violinist of undoubted skill, was heard in two Spanish dances by Fernandez Arbos, which well showed off her technical ability, although in themselves not particularly interesting. Another instrumentalist was Mr. Arthur Alexander, whose playing of Brahms's Rhapsody, Op. 59, No. 2, was somewhat rough, but he showed great command of the keyboard in two pieces, entitled "Night Fancies," by Mr. B. J. Dale, and "Elves," by Mr. Matthay, the latter piece being decidedly pleasing. Among the vocalists Miss Styles-Allen gave a dramatic but rather too strenuous reading of Max Bruch's "Ave Maria." She appeared at her best, however, in "An Indian Night," by Orlando Morgan. Mr. Constantine Morris, who possesses a deep baritone voice of good quality, sang three songs—"Le pas d'Armes du Roi Jean," by C. Saint-Saëns; "O Captain! my Captain," by Frank C. Butcher; and pleasing his audience greatly in Elgar's song, "Was it some golden star?" Miss Clara Serena, a very promising contralto, who also articulates well, sang three songs by Malcolm Davidson—"At the turn of the burn," "The shadow," and "The bargain," the most noteworthy being the song entitled "The shadow," of a dramatic character. The plan of giving each student three numbers is apt to become wearisome and tedious unless it is an exceptionally good choice. Miss Morfydd Owen elected to sing four songs of her own composition. The arrangement of the "Years at the spring" and "Song from a Persian village" proved her versatility as a composer. She appears to be slightly under French influences, in the manner of her compositions, for instance, in the "Welsh lullaby," "Luo Gan," and the general effect was hardly pleasing, and certainly incongruous. The concert was brought to a conclusion by the performance of the "Two Novellettes" for strings (Philip Levine), by the Kinze Quartet. The accompanists were Mr. F. A. Sewell, Miss Ethel Bilsland, and Mr. Alan Taffs.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street on Tuesday, March 11.

Present: Mr. John Mortimer (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Arthur Dennis, Adnam Sprange, Fredk. Annerley, Norman Yates, Ben Webster, F. J. Arlton, William Devereux, C. F. Collings, Murri Moncrieff, Fredk. James, Miss Laura Leycester, Miss Judith Kyrle, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Douglas Munro expressing his regret at being unable to attend the Council.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, of the Society of West End Managers, with regard to the Standard contract, and promising to write further after the next meeting of the society on April 2.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Montgomery Martin, secretary of the Touring Managers' Association, and received instructions.

The secretary read a letter from the hon. solicitor asking the Council to interview two members. After the interviews the hon. solicitor received instructions.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Cyril Maude with regard to the Actors' Orphanage theatrical garden party, asking if the Association could see their way to help by undertaking a special show, to be styled the Actors' Association

[Photo by Richard Brown.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM LOWE.

The above are the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. William Lowe, the well-known actor and actress, who will celebrate their golden wedding on Tuesday, March 18, at their little home at Liverpool. They are now in their seventy-seventh and seventy-sixth years. Mrs. Lowe began her theatrical career at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, in 1845, when she played Eveleen in "The Green Bushes." In 1854 she was engaged by Mr. Seymour for a season at St. James's Theatre, where she played small parts in "The King's Rival" and "My Friend the Major." Meeting and associating with the great favourites of London fired her ambition to be a leading lady, a position she attained and held for many years in the principal provincial theatres. While at Aberdeen she met Mr. Lowe, who was a "heavy man" and Scotch character actor, with the result that they became man and wife at the end of the season. They were for many stock seasons at Greenock, Glasgow, Paisley, and Edinburgh; this was before the days of touring. When touring became an organised system, they joined the Miss Marriott and Osmond Tearle companies, with which they remained many years.

Booth. Mr. Arlton moved that Mr. Maude be written to accepting the offer, and that a notice be placed on the board asking members willing to assist to give their names, and, if possible, suggest some original ideas, to be discussed by the Council as to what form the entertainment should take. Seconded by Mr. James and carried unanimously.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Arlton, and, on the motion of Mr. Sprange, seconded by Mr. Dennis, carried unanimously.

The House Committee's report was read by Mr. Yates and adopted.

The secretary presented a list of votes received *re* Matinée Sub-Committee, and the following twenty-five were elected:—

Miss Mildred Cottell, Mr. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Edmund Kennedy, Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes, Miss Alice Esden, Miss Margherita Gordon, Miss Beatrice Egerton, Mr. Langford Reed, Mr. Walter Hubert, Mr. Coningsby Brierly, Mr. J. L. Dale, Miss Madge Flynne, Miss E. Trevor Lloyd, Miss Gracie Vicat, Miss Evelyn Cecil, Mis Helen Cunningham, Miss Lilian Mason, Miss Georgia Drayson, Miss E. Nolan O'Connor, Miss Maud Kirwan, Miss Nina Osborne, Miss Kitty Carteret, Miss Barbara Everest, Mr. Clifford Heatherley, and Miss Gladys Faunce.

The secretary reported *re* inquiries for an early postal delivery, and informed the Council that a separate box would cost three guineas and a special bag four guineas per annum. Mr. Dennis moved, seconded by Mr. James, that, in face of these difficulties, the matter be dropped. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Bates moved that the names of members of the Council voting for and against resolutions on matters of policy shall be posted on the board in the rooms of the Association. Seconded by Mr. Dennis and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sprange promised to attend as acting-secretary on Friday afternoon, March 14.

Elections.—Rita Leggiero, Lilian Talbot, Efga Myers, Elsie Gwynne, and Marion Meath.

Reinstatement.—Spencer Trevor.

Nominations.—Christian Morrow, Julian D'Albie, and Archibald McCaig.

Mr. Michael Faraday will re-dress "The Girl in the Taxi" at the Lyric on Easter Monday, with some exquisite creations already ordered from Paris.

IN the hands of Managers and Artistes throughout the United Kingdom the first thing on Wednesday morning. The Early Bird. See next week's

WEDNESDAY ERA

for The "Spot" Light, full reports of New Sketches, &c., and many other items of interest to the Professional World.

MOTOR NOTES.

BY "COUNTRYMAN."

The Revival of the Road.

The noble Corinthians! Who has not heard of them! That band of sportsmen led by a Royal Prince, who made sport and open-air life the fashion in England, and who, by the demand of their necessities and their desires, built up the old English inn to be the world's criterion of homely comforts.

Great days, indeed, when the coach horn was heard in the land—when village and hamlet left their labour to cheer the champing greys or bays as they swung past. But the coach horn and the noble holder of the ribbons have vanished with the sporting Corinthian into the limbo of the past—to be resurrected but once in a while by ardent lovers of the horse. And with them departed the glory of the road.

A network of steel enveloped our sylvan England, building new arteries of traffic that drew the passenger and passer-by away from the fine old roads. Inns deserted, save for local support, or an almost accidental traffic, ceased to be the hostelries of the past. No coaches came with guests at eventide. Silver grew tarnished with disuse, the wines the old-time sportsman loved lay corked in the cellar.

It seemed as if the railway had ruined the road and the old inn.

But time, as always, brought her revenge.

For the motor came; clanging and clanking along the open road—noisy, slow, and anything but sure, preceded, for so an archaic law directed, by a man on foot waving a red flag. People smiled as it went by, for few, except enthusiasts realised or guessed that the clanging car, with its noisy, throbbing engine, would develop into the most musical, the most silent, the most utilitarian conveyance that the roads of the world had ever known.

And yet, in ten short years, the face of the countryside has once again altered. Prosperity has come back to old-time inns, and old roads once neglected and unrepaired are to-day fine level highways, of which the land is proud.

And, better still, travel is again the fashion in Britain. Once more we are learning to know our land—to spend our time and our money for our own pleasure amongst our own people.

And all because a band of pioneers, fired by imagination and belief in the future, gave time and energy and life-blood to the development of the petrol engine in connection with the vehicular traffic.

No pastime offers the delights or diversions of motoring—or, considering the amount of travel obtained, is proportionately so inexpensive. Although economy is, of course, a question of the car. Some, experimental and ephemeral, literally burn money; one, at any rate, thanks to years of improvement and standardisation, makes it possible for the man of moderate means to motor to his work or pleasure.

Therefore, it is not wonderful that at eventide, in many an old-time inn, when dinner, tasting better than it is, thanks to fresh-air appetite, has been cleared away, and when the candles cast a gleam on the silver and a shadow on the oak, that many a motorist will raise his glass to toast those worthy pioneers who, regardless of hardship and the sneers of the populace, had the courage of their convictions and plodded on stubbornly, but surely, to reap the reward of their labours in the modern petrol engine—the greatest engineering triumph of the century.

Congratulations to the A.A. and M.U. for successfully managing to quash the conviction of a motorist at Kilmarnock. The following report is from the "Autocar" of Dec. 30:—

"The case of Dickson v. Stevenson came on for hearing at the High Court of Justiciary, at Edinburgh, recently, when the Court quashed the conviction, with £10 10s. costs against the Crown.

"The complainer was convicted by the Sheriff of Kilmarnock of exceeding the speed limit of ten miles an hour in the village of Crookedholm, Kilmarnock. When the complainer was stopped at the time of the alleged offence by two constables, he was informed that he was going too fast, and that he would be reported. The two constables stood some little distance outside the end of the measured distance. It was contended on behalf of the complainer that there was not sufficient notice of intended prosecution within the meaning of Section 9 of the Motor Car Act of 1903, and, moreover, that the method of timing was unsatisfactory. For the respondent, it was submitted that all the requirements under the Act had been fulfilled."

The Special Model Daimler.

A run around Edinburgh and district on the new 39-h.p. six-cylinder "Special" Daimler makes one realise what luxurious motoring really means. During the whole run, with the exception of an occasional stop for purposes photographic, the car was never out of top gear. Its flexibility is astonishing, and it runs without a falter on top gear at any speed from 3 to 60 m.p.h. The flexibility will be easily understood when it is stated that it has a six-cylinder engine of 101.5 mm. bore by 140 mm. stroke. The engine has many noteworthy features, such as the desasie setting of the cylinders and the arrangement of the carburettor, which result in excellent slow-running qualities. The new model has been designed to meet the demand for a car of the highest grade irrespective of cost, and there is no doubt that the Daimler Company have achieved their object. The car, as a whole, is indeed the last word in Limousine luxury.

Wire Wheels.

It is as long ago as 1906 that two keen motorists, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour and Mr. S. F. Edge, used Rudge Whitworth detachable wire wheels—being, in fact, the first users outside Rudge Whitworth, Ltd., to do so. From that time the development has been continuous, in spite of the ridicule with which the idea of carrying a spare wheel was received on all hands. Even people who had seen there was something in them were afraid to use them for fear of being laughed at, and yet to-day there is no country in the world where motor-cars are used or made which has not adopted, absolutely and without reservation, the detachable wheel. In a great many instances the acceptance of the detachable wheel has been accompanied by the acceptance of the principle of the wire wheel, which is, of course, the real reason why detachable wheels have come in, for not only does a detachable wire wheel save time in tyre-changing, but it effects a very great saving in tyres. Like the idea of carrying a spare wheel, so the saving effected by wire wheels has been frequently ridiculed. We therefore give the data on which it is based. The hiring department of the Daimler Company had a number of cars fitted with artillery wheels. They kept an accurate record of the mileage of the tyres used on them. The Daimler Company's experience with Rudge detachable wire wheels suggested to them that a real economy might be made by equipping this fleet of hiring cars with Rudge detachable wire wheels. They kept a careful record of the mileage of these tyres. The results were as follows: Fifty non-Skid covers, 935 by 135 mm., on Rudge wheels, 172,731 miles; average per cover, 3,454 miles. Fifty non-skid covers, 935 by 135 mm., on wood wheels, 102,524 miles; average per cover, 2 060 miles. The cars employed were in both tests identical, except for their road wheels, so that it is a fair assumption that Rudge detachable wheels reduce the tyre bill by over 40 per cent. It is worthy of note that the aggregate distance run by the tested tyres is over a quarter of a million miles. So extensive a test eliminates the errors due to variations in individual tyres. On many of the cars at the Scottish Show the new 1913 wheel is exhibited. It has been adopted by many of the leading manufacturers for their best models.

PLAYS AT COSMOPOLIS.

THE TRIAL THEATRE SOCIETY.

A new version of Goldoni's famous comedy, "La Locandiera," was given at the Cosmopolis Theatre on the afternoon of March 7, by the Trial Theatre Society, which has been formed with a view of establishing in London a theatre where adaptations into English of plays of all nationalities, as well as original English pays, may be produced. The present adaptation of the story of the "Fair Hostess" is by Chev. Ugo Catani. The character of Mirandolina, the witty hostess of the Italian country inn who brings all her clients to her little feet, was very daintily and cleverly played by Signorina A. Cagna. Signor Tullio was excellent as the avowed woman-hater, the Chevalier of Ripafratta, and Signor Poli gained a good deal of applause for his vigorous acting as the impecunious aristocrat, the Marquis of Forlimpopoli, other good performances being given by Signori A. and F. Carreras and O. Ascoli.

THE FOREIGN THEATRE SOCIETY.

Four new "Silhouettes Parisiennes" from the pen of Mlle. Juliette Mylo were given at Cosmopolis on the evening of March 7. The dialogue of all these living little sketches, both French and English, is witty and neatly turned, and the principal part in each gave Mlle. Mylo opportunity for the expression of her varied gifts of comedy, tragedy, and farce. In "La Bourgeoisie" the young wife's attempts to arrange marriages for her two sisters are unexpectedly frustrated by the admiration for herself avowed by the selected candidates. In "Le Monde," which is written and played in English, the fascinating little widow, Yvette, draws the wished-for proposal of marriage from her solicitor-guardian by the recital of two imaginary offers, both of which she pretends to have accepted. The little tragedy of humbler life, "Les Travailleurs," deals with the refusal by Madeleine of the elderly Mons. Renaud, whom she imagines to be in love with her mother, for the sake of her undeclared lover, Jacques, who, however, is only anxious to offer her everything but marriage. The double disappointment causes mother and daughter to seek consolation in their mutual love. The amusing little episode, "Le Demi-Monde," shows Olivette, of the Empire Theatre, studying her part vigorously, but unable to produce the tears necessary for the third act. Her understudy, Suzette, weighed down by poverty and trouble, can produce them in abundance, and, moved by the recital of her woes, Olivette determines to give her her chance by feigning sudden illness when the manager of the theatre calls on her, her lover, Gaston, becoming a hastily improvised doctor. Mlle. Mylo was ably seconded in each piece by Mlle. Alice Dermont, who was particularly good as the English sister of Yvette's friend, and as the stolid, provincial Yvonne in "Le Demi-Monde." Good work was also done by Mons. Jean Menetrez as the shy lover, Deroy; Mr. George Fitzgerald, as Yvette's English Guardian; Miss Lily Kerr, as Olivette's understudy; and by MM. Yves Schwarz and René Hélie, who each appeared in two different parts.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on March 10 commenced with an organ solo Fugue in D Minor (Bach), fairly well rendered by Mr. Aloysius E. Bolton. The violin playing of Miss Alma Foster of Bach's Sonata in G Minor was worthy of praise. She gave the right spirit of Bach's music, and shows improvement in her studies. The next item was the song by Bemberg, "Chant Hindou," very well sung by Miss Yvonne Pewny. She was accompanied on the violin by Miss Aileen Butler. Miss Dorothy Melluish chose for her piano solo the "Impromptu Op. 90" (Schubert), and fairly well succeeded. The singing of Miss Margaret Gibson of Schubert's "Die Allmacht" proved quite a success. Her method was excellent, and she articulates well. The pianoforte solo "Liebsträume" No. 2 (Liszt) gave Miss Grace W. Salmon an opportunity to display her ability. Mr. Eric Catford sang exceedingly well Mendelssohn's "It is enough" (Elijah). He has a good voice and style. Mr. Harold A. Wood played his own composition for piano Prelude in F sharp Minor and Prelude in C Minor. It is a somewhat clever little work and shows promise. The Quartette in F Major, Op. 18, No. 1 Beethoven was well played by Evelyn Moore, Dora Bianchi, Aileen Butler, and Winifred Love, members of the Chamber Music Class.

Mr. Harry Tresham, who for eight and a half years has been juvenile lead in the well-known stock company at the Liverpool Theatre Royal, is about to sever his connection with that place in order to join Mr. Tom Taylor's stock company at the Alhambra, Openshaw, Manchester. Mr. Tresham has, during his long stay in Liverpool, played many parts, and is a young actor of proved ability. His departure will be a distinct loss to the Royal, where he was deservedly popular.

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THE DAIMLER COMPANY, Ltd. (Hire Department), 78, MARYLEBONE LANE, W.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents are requested to forward their Reports next week so that they may reach us not later than FIRST POST on WEDNESDAY MORNING.

KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, March 10.
"THE TURNING POINT."

Mr. Alban B. Limpus and Miss Cecile Barclay are presenting an excellent company here this week in the recent St. James's Theatre success, "The Turning Point." The play was followed in all its phases with keen appreciation. Sir George Alexander's part of Lieutenant-Colonel Felt was in the capable hands of Mr. Rupert Lister, who gave a most finished and able performance. The virile, forceful nature of the man, and his iron self-control, broken on rare occasions by momentary bursts of passion, were perfectly rendered by the actor, ond his portrayal of unspoken, dazed horror on his entrance in the second act after killing the spy, Glogan, was exceedingly clever. Miss Cecile Barclay is the Monique Felt, and showed herself well equal to the emotional requirements of this difficult part. Indeed, it is a tribute to their acting that throughout the very strong second act, which, with the exception of a short opening scene with the maid, Annette, capably played by Miss A. Vansittart, is entirely in the hands of these two artistes, the tension never for a moment relaxed. Mr. Charles Fancourt did well as the lover, Mercel Beaucourt; Mr. F. Owen Chambers struck just the right note of diplomatic craftiness in Julius Glogan, and Mr. Campbell Beaver was good as Stettin. Quite a hit was made by Mr. Herbert Rea in the light comedy part of Bertrand de Maurel, and Miss Mary Forrester was a charming Therese Denian. Deserving of mention, too, are Mr. George Barran for his dignified impersonation of Monseigneur Jussey; and Mr. A. Mayne, as Henri Cartelle; Mr. Alfred Manners, as the Mayor; and Miss Maud Garth, as Yvonne Stettin. The smaller parts were also efficiently played, and the piece was sumptuously mounted.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, March 10, the Play, entitled
"SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY."

"Sweet Nell of Old Drury," presented here this week by Miss Julia Neilson and the New Theatre (London) Company, continues the brilliant series of attractions which the local management are so liberally providing for the present season. This charming romantic play has been seen here before, and, as on previous occasions, Miss Neilson and company are being patronised by exceptionally large and delighted houses. Nell Gwynne, the part with which her name has become so successfully associated, is played by Miss Neilson with her wonted charm and daintiness, whilst her rich mellow voice and artistic singing in the second act are as keenly relished as ever. Mr. H. Humberston Wright gives a realistic picture of the weak and trifling King Charles II., a really fine performance. The fierce vindictiveness of Lord Jeffreys is forcibly portrayed by Mr. J. Denis Hogan, who brings out the various phases of the character with strength and emphasis. Mr. Alfred Kendrick is manly, earnest, and sincere as Sir Roger Fairfax, and Messrs. Henry Hewitt and Bellenden Clarke give effective readings as Lord Rochester and Lord Lovelace. Percival causes hearty laughter, thanks to the humour imparted to the character by Mr. Arthur Williams, and a clever and humorous characterisation of Rollins is contributed by Mr. Artnur Applin. Miss Violet Farebrother proves herself an actress of ability and personal charm in depicting Lady Castlemaine, and Miss Betty Bellairs is to be congratulated on her performance as the Duchess of Portsmouth. A responsible character is Lady Olivia Vernon, whose troubled career is admirably portrayed by Miss Mollie Terraine, and a success is made by Miss Winifred Rae as Tiffin. Mr. Leslie Gordon gives an intelligent delineation of Lacey, and Mr. James Carter-Edwards plays convincingly as Captain Clavering. All the minor parts are well filled, and the incidental and entr'acte music is suitably rendered by the local orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Sydney Ffoulkes.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, March 10, the Comedy, entitled
"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."

The week after Miss Cicely Hamilton's illuminative performance as Mrs. Knox, the dolorous religieuse of "Fanny's First Play," brings Miss Hamilton's own racy, romantic, exciting, and incisive play, "Diana of Dobson's," which holds the boards at the cosy Notting Hill-gate theatre. This is not the first nor the second visit of this lively and exhilarating exposition of the emancipation of womanhood, but it is too good a piece of its kind to acquire staleness with custom, as less sterling plays are wont to do in the process of time. Miss Katherine Harrington as Diana Massingbird, the adventurous, high-spirited young lady of the title-rôle, acts very charmingly with a nice sense of character, and evinces strong emotional ability. Mr. Harold Anstruther, as the weak-minded but big-hearted son of Mars, Captain Hon. Victor Bretherton, W.G., does full justice to his part. Mr. Andrew Money, as the pompous, self-sufficient, illiterate, and jumped-up Sir Jabez Grinley, is the unctuous, shoppy tradesman to the life; Miss Cicely Oates, as "the Embankment lady," a light of other days, is very amusing; and the parts of the forewoman. Mrs. Pringle, and of the other employees at Dobson's are well played by Misses Madge Severne, Elsie Stirling, Kitty Trevail, Evelyn Hall, and Dorothy Mayhew. Miss Caroline Fenton assumes the right style, and is vastly entertaining as the would-be-clever match-making mamma, Mrs. Cantelupe; and Miss Maud Bracewell is good as the woman of the world, Mrs. Whyte-Frazer. Mr. P. G. Beal as P.C. Fellowes is worthy of praise, he also acts as stage-manager to the show; and Mr. A. C. Bute, as Waiter at the Hotel Engadine, does all that is required of him satisfactorily. The tour is produced, by arrangement with Miss Lena Ashwell, under the management and direction of Harold V. Neilson, with Mr. Vyvian Thomas as acting-manager.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

A very welcome visit is being paid this week by Mr. George Edwardes' principal répertoire company. For Monday, Friday, and Saturday "The Merry Widow" was chosen, while for the other nights "The Dollar Princess" is occupying the boards. This popular production has several features of special excellence. The costumes are as delightful as are the ladies who appear in them; the scenery of each of the three acts is most realistic, that of the second, the garden in which lawn tennis is in full swing, being possibly the best of the trio. There are not a few musical items in the score of Leo Fall that are particularly captivating, such as the "Num, Num" duet between Freddy Fairfax and Alice in Act I., and "Schoolboy days" in the second act between Daisy and Bulger; the several solos are all executed by exponents with cultured voices. Miss Effie Mann undertook the part of Alice, the wayward, petulant daughter of the multi-millionaire, Phineas Conder, and alike in singing and acting made a very satisfactory impression, several times being honoured with a hearty en- Miss Florence Ivy, a charming blonde, was fascinating and archly coquettish as Daisy, Miss Ada Thomas made a handsome pseudo- as Olga, the erstwhile Lion Queen, and he part with much success. Mamie was played by Miss Freda Large. Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter made all that he possibly could out of the part of Mr. Bulger, the confidential clerk to Conder, and whenever he was on the stage caused roars of laughter by his droll antics, his merry witticisms, and dry asides. Mr. Tom Redmond did excellently well as the American millionaire, and very humorous was Mr. Clifton Hamilton as Dick, his nephew. Mr. Riply Evans had a capital part as John Earl of Quorn, the money-man's groom, who weds the platonically-inclined Daisy, and Mr. Clifford Seyler was sufficiently ludicrous as Sir James McGregor, the aristocratic footman. Mr. Ernest Climpson was good in the small part of the Duke of Stonehenge, the butler of the curious establishment, and Mr. Haydn Scott was Sir John and Mr. William Allison Lieut. Grant. Miss Hilda Laine as Dulcie du Cros, a Californian girl, and Miss Ivy Durn as Sadie Von Trump, her friend, looked piquant and pretty, while the handsome appearance of the chorus ladies is quite worthy of mention. As in all the George Edwardes' productions, the tout-ensemble was all that the most captious could desire, and to add to the thoroughness, the orchestra, which was under the direction of Mr. Harry Burton, was considerably increased. Mr. Gifford Stacey is general-manager of the company.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, March 10, the Musical Comedy,
"THE QUAKER GIRL."

Mr. George Dance's company is still flourishing with an excellent rendering of the pretty "Quaker Girl." The piece is very well mounted, and the frocks are, of course, dreams of loveliness. The music is ably directed by Mr. A. Garfield Barratt. Mr. Hugh Weybrance plays Captain Charteris in a natural and easy manner, and is well in the picture all through. Mr. Cyril Dane as Prince Carlo repeats his singularly attractive representation of that suave and cultured man of pleasure; it is quite a work of art. Mr. J. W. Hooper, capitally made up, is responsible for plenty of laughter as the lively Jeremiah, and gets every bit of fun out of the part. Mr. W. Ogle is quiet and dignified as the Minister Duhamel, and Mr. Charlton Hutchinson puts great spirit into his work as the checkmated chief of police Larosse. William, Nathaniel Pym, and Targe are well portrayed by Messrs. L. Verno, A. Hayter, and H. Dench. Mr. John T. MacCallum is a great success as Tony Chute. He is a very live American, full of characteristic humour and quaint phrases. He acts with charming vivacity and is a beautiful dancer. Nor do his accomplishments apparently end there, for, unless one's eyes deceive one, the art of Devant is not quite unknown to him.

Miss Maud Denny plays smartly as Phœbe, and dances excellently. Miss Lily Alaine makes a very pleasing representative of the Princess Mathilde, and sings finely. Miss Elsie Wallace looks well and plays with spirit as the actress Diane. Miss Olga Morra, as Mme. Blum, must be congratulated on her work; she is admirably French, and admirably funny, and quite one of the mainstays of the piece. Miss K. Haddon and Miss M. Robertson play effectively as Rachel Pym and Tomette. Mr. Dance has found an admirable representative of Prudence, the Quaker Girl. Miss Sybil Coulthurst possesses the gifts of youth and singular personal charm, and plays the part with wonderful grace and simplicity. Her songs and dances also, especially the latter, were quite up to the level required.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 10, the play, entitled
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

A very good reception is this week being accorded the members of Mr. William Greet's chief company in "The Sign of the Cross" at the Dalston Theatre. Mr. H. St. Barbe West enacts Marcus Superbus, Prefect of Rome, with an intense earnestness. The heavier scenes contrast so strongly with his love episodes with the fair Mercia that audiences have full opportunity of judging the versatility of this actor, and they fully applaud his talents. Miss Madge Monti makes Mercia a really lovable personage, and when she and Marcus, together with Stephanus, a character admirably sustained by Miss Florence Bond, go forth to meet their fate at the jaws of the wild beasts, the evidences of sympathy on the part of the spectators are of a pronounced kind. Mr. Walter Fleet is a patriarchal Favius, and his fellow-Christians, Titus, played by Mr. George W. Hulme, and Melos, represented by Mr. R. Chapman, are interesting characters. Mr. Bernard Elliott as the terrible Emperor fully conveys the idea of the nervous character of the monster, and Miss Frances Midgley, as the Empress, serves, if anything, in a clever way to heighten the feeling of resentment against Nero. Miss Dorothy Lart as Berenice, and Miss Doris Rene as Dacia, Patricians, serve to relieve the serious portions of the play by their love intrigues and their cutting interchanges of sarcasm. Mr. Charles Yorke is a relentless Tigelinus, counsellor to Nero, and Mr. J. Wetherall is a ruthlessly cruel Licinius. Glabrio is represented by Mr. Frank Wood, who imparts the true touch of comedy to the bibulous Roman. Philodemus has a quaint representative in Mr. Harry Jones. The two spies, Servilius and Strabo, are strenuously portrayed by Mr. Phil H. Ellis and Mr. Martin Palmer respectively; and Mr. Tom Wetherall is an alert Viturius. The cast also includes Mr. J. Newman, Mr. H. Roose, and the Misses B. Thorne, D. Northam, B. Beaumise, M. Pagett, K. Arnold, G. Courtin, G. Medcalfe, M. Noble, and M. Reeve. Mr. Bernard Elliott is stage-manager.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, March 10, the Drama, entitled
"THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW."

The above drama is creating no small amount of enthusiasm here this week. It deals with life on the Western prairies, and introduces real Indians. The play is elaborately staged and dressed, and the plot is very entertaining, reflecting the greatest credit upon the authoress, Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Mr. Page as Bob Middleton, in a very clean and carefully studied part, plays to perfection. The portrayal of Josh Hawkins, by Mr. Terry Davis is worthy of commendation, and displays considerable versatility. Mr. Edward Bikker makes a robust Rube Thompson, a ranger, and Mr. Herbert Sydney as Blue Hawke gives an excellent interpretation of an Indian Chief. Miss Marion Denvil as Morita is charming, acting with an ease and elegance that is most refreshing. The excellent comedy is in the capable hands of Miss Nellie Lorraine, Messrs. O'Shea and Geo. Scully, and this trio are responsible for plenty of merriment. Miss Nellie Masterman as Little Moon, an Indian boy, gives a remarkable performance. All the minor parts are filled by capable artistes. The orchestra, under the direction of the energetic Mr. W. Stephenson, plays excellent interludes. A couple of interesting pictures brings an enjoyable evening's entertainment to a close.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, March 10, the Drama, entitled
"THE MORMON AND HIS WIVES."

The patrons of the Stratford Theatre Royal, who like their dramatic fare served "hot and strong," and are not too insistent on the score of probability, are finding the piece under notice much to their liking, the adventures of the Mormon missionaries in this country in quest of "wives" and the misfortunes of English girls in Salt Lake City providing a very thrilling subject. As the chivalrous parson, Dudley Wade, who ventures into Utah to rescue the girl he loves, Mr. Oswald Cray acts in manly and earnest style. The much-married Mormon, Josiah Beamish, is a double-dyed scoundrel in the hands of Mr. Clifton Earle; the hypocritical Silas Mellish is cleverly portrayed by Mr. William H. Burton; and as that unctuous old humbug, Zacariah Papp, Mr. F. Morton Wright is decidedly droll. Mr. Ernest A. Duval is very amusing as the genial Michael Maloney; Mr. Bert H. Reynolds does well as Jerry Ackroyd; Mr. Harold Steven plays appropriately as Jasper Weirdale; and Mr. Leonard H. Rooke is effective as Gawkins. Miss Sybil Hare is a pretty and girlish Nellie Weirdale, and her spirited and natural performance wins many encomiums. Miss Aimie Grattan Clyndes' clever acting strongly emphasises the vixenish nature of Julia Beamish, and her fine stage appearance lends distinction to the part. Miss Helen Lowther is well placed as Mrs. Weirdale, and Miss Pattie Dene is excellent as Rosie May.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, March 10, the Play, entitled
"EVERYWOMAN."

This mythical play received a cordial welcome from a very large audience on Monday night, and its novelty and excellent interpretation should make the week's visit a satisfactory one to all concerned. Mr. Edward Compton brings much histrionic ability and experience to bear upon the part of Nobody, who is always most impressive and convincing. In the exacting rôle of Everywoman Miss May Congdon scores a distinct success, every phase of the character being depicted with an artistic touch allied to a highly attractive personality. Mr. Fred. Powell readily suggests the affluent Wealth by his sound impersonation, and highly coloured portraitures of the two theatrical managers, Stuff and Bluff, are cleverly hit off by Mr. William P. Sheen and Mr. H. Strangeways-Lesmere respectively. Mr. Mervyn Colomb acts with all the necessary effect as Passion, and his singing is much admired; Mr. Henry Barrett is successful as the press agent, Puff; Mr. Gerald Henson fulfills all requirements as King Love the First; and an amusing study of amiable inanity comes from Mr. Frank R. Robertson as Lord Witless. Miss Daisy England cleverly interprets Truth; Beauty is safely entrusted to Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn; Youth has a very suitable exponent in Miss Haidee Barry; and Modesty is appropriately portrayed by Miss Helen Oliver. Miss Ruby Vernon wins general approval for her singing and acting as Conscience; Miss Lena Delphine shows a keen sense of humour as Greed; and Miss Lily Vine is a tactfully alluring Vice. Remaining parts in a long cast are all capitally undertaken.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, March 10, the Play, entitled
"HINDLE WAKES."

This much debated Lancashire play, with its strong incidents and unconventional curtains, produced a profound impression, and gave plenty of food for thought, for all who have attended Mr J. Bannister Howard's theatre this week. Mr Max Allen's company is most carefully chosen, and from the opening scene held their audiences' interest uninterruptedly. Mr. Norman Clark gave great reality to his impersonation of old Christopher Hawthorn, the mill hand, conveying the quiet grief of the wronged father with much skill. Miss Cecile E. Anson as the assertive wife was also excellent, and caused much amusement by her declarations in the scene at Bank Top House. As the erring Fanny Hawthorn, Miss Helena Walbron was a mill girl right down to her clogs, and her unrestrained grief in the first act was a powerful bit of acting and yet without exaggeration. Mr. Ernest E. Imeson dominated every scene in which he appeared as Nathaniel Jeffcote, by his strong personality and uncompromising manner, and was most successful in a difficult part. As Mrs. Jeffcote, Miss Kate Osborne was homely and natural, giving the requisite emphasis to the strong natural feeling in favour of her son; and Mr. Colston Mansell did the very best possible with the thankless part of the thoughtless Alan Jeffcote. Mr. John Cecil as Sir Timothy Farrar, the other mill owner, was cleverly made up, and he well suggested the shrewdness and eye to the main chance of the uneducated man. Miss Madge Trenchard put in good work as Beatrice, his daughter, acting with great sincerity and restraint. The production was preceded by an amusing curtain raiser, "Economising," by John F. Haylock, in which a would-be careful husband is cured of his cheeseparing leanings by a clever wife, who exceeds even his ideas in sparse provision for the house.

BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, March 10, the Comic Opera, entitled
"THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER."

"The Chocolate Soldier," with its bright dialogue and Oscar Straus's melodious and ear-haunting musical setting is always a sure draw in Deptford, and though this is the third visit here of Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's clever company, the popularity of the piece seems very far from being exhausted. Miss Pearl Ladd makes a comely and engaging Nadina, singing the famous "My hero" song in excellent style, and throughout displaying her fine vocalisation to the delight of the audience. Mr. Harry Arnold is very well suited as the self-possessed and calculating young gentleman Bumerli. Mr. Leo Sheffield is very diverting as the old lady-killer, Colonel Popoff. Miss Courtis Cheal acts and sings well as the romantic Aurelia, the wife of Colonel Popoff. Mr. Lawrence Howard makes the fire-eating and truculent Massacroff a very amusing person indeed. Mr. James Davis acts well as the conceited Alexius Spiridoff, and renders his musical numbers very tunefully. Miss Nellie Dale is a very arch and bewitching little flirt as Mascha, singing very nicely. Miss Ruby Leslie does well as Katinka. There is a full and efficient chorus. The scenery and effects are admirable. The augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Charles Claus Bunz. Mr. T. N. Walter, whom old Broadway patrons will remember as a former resident-manager of the Broadway Theatre, is the amiable and energetic general-manager for the visiting company.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, March 10, the Drama, entitled
"A DARK SECRET."

Miss Ida Millais has brought an excellent company to Woolwich this week with this favourite play. Mr. Alfred Wilson does well as James Norton, giving the rôle the requisite touch of manliness. Miss Ida Millais gives a finished performance in the difficult rôle of May Joyce, making the part of the unhappy girl a very effective one. Mr. Sidney Rennet as Jonas Norton gives a graphic depiction of villainy, and Jonas's accomplice and son, Stephen, has in Mr. Percy Beresford as capable an exponent as could be desired. Messrs. Henry Herne and Bartley Payne are responsible for capital character studies of Arthur Loates and Martin Brookes, respectively. Much appreciated humour is contributed by Mr. Reg Kendrick, Harry Watson, and John Weston, as Slim Jim, Samuel, and P.C. Short. The thankless rôle of Mme. Le Fontaine is well placed with Miss Amy Ellam, who makes the most of the opportunities offered her; Miss Maggie Stewart, in addition to playing the faithful servant, Bessie, is responsible for a large slice of the fun making; Miss Hilda Bayton capably enacts Nellie Joyce. Minor parts are competently filled. The scenery and effects are on a lavish scale, the Regatta scene and the Backwater scene, wherein the thrilling rescue takes place, being especially appreciated.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, March 10, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE GIRL IN THE TRAIN."

Mr. Herbert Ralland's company is paying a return visit here with this amusing play, full of delightful dances, songs, duets, quartettes, &c., which lift it far above the ordinary musical comedy; the "Girl in the Train" is irresistibly funny. The Woolwich favourite, Mr. Ray Russell, still plays the President, Van Eyck, and his witty and humorous sayings make the house rock with laughter; Mr. F. W. Bowes as Cornelius Scrop, the conductor on the train, is also very mirth-provoking; Mr. Percy Watson is very good as Karel Van Buren, singing and acting excellently. Karel's jealous wife, Jana, has an admirable representative in Miss Rosa Burchell, her singing being of the very highest order; Miss Winnie Hall acts, sings, and dances well as Martje Kronwevleit; Miss Ethel Oliver as Gonda Van der Loo, the innocent cause of all the trouble, sings, dances, and acts excellently, and is dainty, pretty, and altogether charming. Her rag-time duet and zig-zag glide with Mr. Bay Russell was redemanded no fewer than four times. Mr. C. F. Cooke does well as Lucas Van Tromp, and the two Councillors, Van Lieje and Van Dender, have in Messrs. Stafford Dickens and Griffen Campion excellent exponents; Mr. Cecil Moylan is well placed as Willem Tronjer; and Mr. Phillip Cooper makes a humorous Court Usher. Miss Dagmar Dargue does well as Adeline, a small but at the same time important part. The scenery and effects are on a lavish scale.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 10, the Play, entitled
"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."

Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is attracting full houses to the Brixton Theatre this week with the popular "Brewster's Millions." Mr. Hutchison is capital in his interpretation of the part of Monty Brewster, and arouses abundance of mirth. He was greatly applauded, the curtain being raised again and again at the termination of each act. As Charlie Harrison, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald is excellent. Joseph McLeod is well undertaken by Mr. Ernest Deans, while another good portrayal comes from Mr. T. Gordon Blyth as Frank Brogden. Mr. Henry Hampson appears very successfully as Archie Golding. Tommy Smith is capably dealt with by Mr. Herbert Marshall. Miss Elsie Stranack is worthy of all praise for her excellent representation of Peggy (Margaret Grey). Miss Lilias Earle is good as Mrs. Dan de Mille. A clever bit of acting is given by Miss Claire Milvain as Janice Armstrong. As Barbara Drew (daughter of Colonel Drew, a part well enacted by Mr. Henry Byatt) Miss Gwenda Villiers is very charming. Mr. Charles Bedells depicts with credit the rôle of Mr. Grant. Miss Muriel Nevison is a creditable Trixie Clayton. Mr. F. G. Thurston as Rawles, the butler, supplies plenty of good humour. Mention should also be made of Messrs. V. S. Haye (Horace Pettinghill), F. Hunter (Bertram), A. Paynter (Monsieur Barge), and Miss Betty Linley as Miss Boynton. The piece is finely mounted and dressed, the famous Ship scene being particularly well done. "Brewster's Millions" is preceded each evening by a comedietta, the two characters of Tim and Kit being allotted to Mr. Herbert Marshall and Miss Betty Linley. The orchestra is under the competent direction of Mr. W. T. Glidon.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

On Monday, March 10, the Drama, entitled
"A THIEF IN THE NIGHT."

Encouraging success attended on Monday the first visit here of Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company, in "A Thief in the Night," and their performances are meeting with abundant appreciation from large and deeply interested audiences. Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, the author, has succeeded in presenting a play that maintains a firm grip upon the audience to the final fall of the curtain. Liberal mounting and dressing and competent stage-management assist in securing a well-merited success. Monday's hearty reception speaks, not only of the interest in Mr. Wallace's dramatisation, but of the ability of the company engaged. Mr. Ellis Leigh as Alan Escombe presents a powerful piece of acting; in the touching and pathetic incidents his artistic work is most appropriate. Miss Elizabeth Watkins, in the rôle of Joan Escombe, makes every point tell, and imparts pathos and sincerity to her assumption of the character. Mr. Norman R. Cannon emphasises the treachery and villainy of Michael Pagani in an earnest and effective manner, and his accomplice, Sonia Cleve, has an able exponent in Miss Josephine Colona, who exercises her dramatic powers admirably. Mr. Wallace has secured a comedian of much merit in Mr. Algie Spalding as Toby, who keeps up a continual supply of amusement. He is very ably assisted by Miss Hetty Graham as Happy Christmas. The weak, cowardly Richard Cleve is acted with due discrimination by Mr. Hugh Wallace; whilst the Rev. Charles Halkett is neatly portrayed by Mr. Francis James. Mr. Johnnie Leoni is quite at home in the amusing character of Crake, and Mr. Bert Hedger appears to advantage in the part of P.C. H. 20. Miss May Byron plays with convincing earnestness as Susan, and Miss Kathleen Arding is altogether admirable as Little Joan. Commendable work is also done by the other members of a long cast. The scenery is bright and appropriate. Mr. Harold Montague's orchestra maintains its reputation for efficiency, and Mr. J. Hindle Taylor remains the courteous acting-manager for Mr. Andrew Melville.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, March 10, the Play, entitled
"NELL GWYNNE."

The daring experiment of converting the old-style programme into the new and giving twice-nightly performances, has proved successful, and even exceeded expectations. As a result, the several performances given of Mr. Max Goldberg's historical play have been splendidly attended by the public. But then the play is well written, well dressed, and conspicuously well mounted, and in this manner the production has been well advertised among the patrons of the theatre. The personality of Nell Gwynne, as played by Miss Enid Ross, is revealed at every turn. The spectator sees and feels instinctively that here, indeed, is a woman of fire and courage, who, to save her lover from the gallows for the alleged murder of Sir Edmund Godfrey, accepts the persistent lover in the person of the King. Nell's wit and wisdom, too, are not superseded by any other of the lady's attributes, and sympathy is hers from the rise of the curtain to the fall. Mr. Matthew Boulton's Charles II. is kingly and charming. The actor plays with consummate dignity and intense feeling, yet is never strained, but easy throughout. Mr. Edward Beecher is excellent as the recalcitrant Earl, and his interpretation is well reasoned out and perfectly natural. Mr. John F. Preston, who has brought the capable company together, finds plenty of whimsicality and broad fun in that worthy of the past, Bellicose Betterton, the actor. Roars of laughter greet the sallies of the old humbug (yet he was a person of sterling merit), and his movements, together with those of Andrew Doublechick, theatrical manager, his friend and support, are followed with much concern and interest. Mr. Herbert Woodin and Mr. Preston work most admirably together, the Shakespearean patter of the latter being very droll. The foreign Duchess of Portsmouth had an exponent in Miss Maud Kynnersley, who was at once delightful and charming, even in her scheming plots with the weak-kneed Rochester; and Miss Nellie Sheffield, as Abigail, maid to Nell, was particularly bright. This is not a long part, but it is the dash of colour to lighten the drab and the grey of Mistress Nell, and it is artistically fixed by Miss Sheffield. The actor who undertakes the part of Roland Graine is always earnest, whether as the obstinate son of his father or as the young physician, who, later, attends the dying monarch, but is unable to save him. Mr. Alfred Wade as Sir Edmund Godfrey throws a marked personality into the character, and his performance is good. The minor parts are all in capable hands. Old favourites, in the persons of Mr. Beresford Whitcomb and Miss Mabel Lowe, are to occupy the boards next week in "The Streets of London." Mr. Bernard Lawrence Edwards has charge of the management of the house.

THE BRITANNIA, HOXTON.

On Monday, March 10, the Drama, entitled
"HER RUINED LIFE."

This play, containing many exciting incidents, is particularly rich in humorous touches, and village life is portrayed at its best. Mr. Will Casey plays Jeremiah Dibbs, a good-natured countryman with detective instincts, and his passages with Miss Annie Mitchell (Mrs. Will Casey), herself an excellent actress, prove most entertaining. Mr. Frederick F. Lloyd obtained much applause for his effective handling of the part of the hero. Mr. Frank Irwin, as Mr. Karl, cleverly brought out all the old man's cunning. The Margaret Chester, alias Mme. Traska, of Miss Florrie Kelsey, was a most vindictive personage. Miss Edie Tempest gave a pathetic portrayal of the rôle of Nellie, the flower girl. Mr. Edward Swinton was seen in a spirited impersonation of Allen Ford. Mr. Henry Wright's Bertie Beecham was most amusing. Mr. Dicky Bird deserves commendation for his portrayal of Bill Saunders. Li Chang, the Chinaman, was capitally represented by Mr. H. Hammerton. The general dressing of the play deserves special mention.

THE FORESTERS.

On Monday, March 10, the Drama, entitled
"A SAILOR'S SWEETHEART."

Mr. Frederick Baugh's cosy little hall in the East End of London is certainly the recognised home of drama by the hard toilers in the district, for they attend regularly to enjoy the varied productions. The players must also enjoy their work, for their efforts are always appreciated in a hearty manner. "A Sailor's Sweetheart" is an interesting little story dealing with the wicked schemes of Stephen Lucas, a solicitor, and Philip Pemberton, an adventurer, to obtain a will which justly belongs to Charley Clive, an officer in the Navy. Many complications arise, causing spirited situations, which work the audience to an intense pitch of excitement. Mr. Walter Thornton and Mr. Harry Seymour are effective as the schemers, and work very well together. A charming character is that of Grace Marland, delightfully played by Miss E. Walton Hemming, her simple style winning her much favour. Quite a favourite at the Foresters is Mrs. Nelson Ramsey, and in her character of Mrs. Pembury her artistic abilities are displayed. Mrs. Daisy Carlton, as her daughter Phœbe, acts quite well, and is greatly assisted by Mr. Will Hooke, who plays her lover, Tim Kelly. The combination are responsible for much good fun. Mr. Harry Benson, who plays Pinkson, is full of good quips and gags, many decidedly original, and keeps the whole house amused all the time he is on the stage, and he is not absent a great deal. Mr. Charles Kingsley as an imposing Charley Clive, his scenes with Grace Marland being most effective. Mr. Harry McClelland makes a fine Captain Mayland, his clear pronunciation and pleasing personality greatly assisting in his success. Mr. E. J. Lestere, as the Vicar, does good work; and the smaller characters are well cared for by Mr. Percy Scott, Willie West, and Arthur Jones. The producer and stage-manager is Mr. H. G. Brandon.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

After a long run of high-class drama and comedy we have a welcome change during the current week to an excellent vaudeville programme under the auspices of Mr. Harry Tate. The enterprising manager, Mr. J. E. Bull, may well be congratulated on the excellent fare that he has provided for the numerous patrons of this theatre, undoubtedly one of the most convenient, comfortable and up-to-date houses in the suburbs. Judging from the enthusiastic audiences that have this week attended the capital show it should only be the first of many weeks of successful variety, especially if the high standard of talent is maintained. The principal turn is Lockhart's elephants, introduced and trained by Captain Taylor. It seems hardly possible for these ponderous beasts to be more highly trained, the intelligence of some of the animals being simply wonderful. Woody-Wood and Wells, in their mirth-provoking and marvellous acrobatic absurdity, keep the house in a continual roar with their antics. The juggling of Sados stands out with great distinction, and he thoroughly deserves the large amount of applause he gains for his masterly executed numbers; the act is also artistically staged. He is ably assisted by a clever little dwarf. Rose and Challoner make a hit in their well-rendered musical comedy duo, "The Porter and the Singer," the contribution of this clever couple meeting with instant success. The Four Newburys present their latest rag-time dances in fine style, and make a great hit. Miss Maureen Dawn, a gifted young Scottish contralto, is also a warm favourite, and gains applause for two well-rendered numbers. Cliff Goldin pleases the audience with his clever patter and amusing ways, his two songs also catch on. Alfred Jaggard's songs and jokes are decidedly original and funny; he also gives a well-chosen recitation. An exceptional clever child is Miss Marjorie Stevens, whose exhibition of toe-dancing is greatly appreciated. Some up-to-date pictures are well shown. A word of praise is due to the augmented orchestra under the careful direction of Herr Paul. On Thursday Mr. Harry Tate paid a flying visit, and gave a special matinée. Next week the theatre will be closed, and will reopen on Easter Monday with "The Fatal Crown."

On Sunday next a new "Masque," by Mr. Sivori Levey, entitled, "Heroines of Shakespeare's Plays," will be performed in costume at the Playhouse, by permission of Mr. Cyril Maude. Miss Ellen Terry has kindly consented to examine Mr. Levey's pupils in this pageant to-day

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Miss Estelle Stead and Mr. Farmer Skein, who are busy preparing for their spring tour, are sparing no expense in their forthcoming production, and the many admirers of the handsome young actress are looking forward to seeing her again. It will be remembered she retired after the Titanic disaster, having undertaken, at a short notice, by the urgent request of numerous literary friends, to write a life of her father, which is being published. For this literary work she had to cancel all her contracts. Miss Stead is not restricting herself to Shakespearean repertoire. She has secured a one-act play, "The Full Debt," by Robert Willford, which she intends shortly producing.

"FROM PORTLAND TO LIBERTY."

On Monday, March 10, for the First Time in England, the Drama, by Robert Provo, entitled

"FROM PORTLAND TO LIBERTY."

Jack Trusdale ..... Cunning
Winston Marlowe ..... Mr. Arthur Wingrave
Robert Wilson ..... Mr. Almyr Vane
Sir James Harrington .. Mr. Walter Hamilton
Barney M'Guire ..... Mr. Arthur Byron
Tod Small ..... Mr. Frank Ayrton
Dr. Paton ..... Mr. George Benson
Gov. Hopwood ..... Mr. Charles Enwright
Warder Moffatt ..... Mr. Edward Wynter
Dr. Lightfoot ..... Mr. Fred Midar
Otto Mobile ..... Mr. Frank Mackay
Duke of Coney Hatch .... Mr. Howard Veale
Keeper at Insane Asylum
Mr. Sidney Humpherys
Assistant Keeper ..... Mr. Bertram Dixon
Paul Roversi ..... Mr. Paul Atherton
Pietro Mallucci ..... Mr. Robert Hinsdale
Enrico Bellini ..... Mr. George Best
Guido Marini ..... Mr. Vincent Dunn
Charles Conway ..... Mr. W. H. De Vere
Nellie Harrington .. Miss Dorothy Richardson
Dot Underwood ..... Miss Ida Thompson
Mammy Caroline ..... Miss Florence Lovvell

Described as "America's only actor jail-breaker and handcuff expert," Mr. Cunning made his first appearance in England at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday evening in a sensational four-act drama, by Robert Provo, entitled, "From Portland to Liberty." Mr. Cunning, in the part of Jack Trusdale, the hero of the play, is a modern representative of Jack Sheppard, so far as prison-breaking is concerned; but whereas the principal character in Harrison Ainsworth's well-known novel was diminutive in size, and relied upon his fox-like craft rather than his strength, Jack Trusdale is a fine manly fellow possessed of great muscular power, and an expert in the matter of freeing himself from all kinds of fetters. Moreover, when Jack is consigned to a prison cell it is on a false charge of murdering Sir James Harrington, the head of a Safe and Lock Co., in whose employment he has been as superintendent of the works. The manager, Winston Marlowe, is an unscrupulous rascal, and has robbed his employers, having persuaded Robert Wilson, the firm's book-keeper, to falsify the books. Caught by Sir James in the act of abstracting the contents of a safe, Marlowe, in the presence of Wilson, shoots the old man, and Trusdale, being found alone with the body, is accused of the crime.

Jack is convicted of the murder, but the death sentence is commuted to imprisonment for life. He becomes an inmate of Portland Prison; one morning his cell is found to be empty, to the great consternation of the governor and the head warder. However, he quickly gives himself up, explaining to the governor that his object in breaking out of prison was to secure some drawings of patents which he did not wish to fall into the hands of Marlowe. Trusdale is heavily fettered, and then placed in a steel cage in an underground dungeon, where Wilson and Marlowe come to taunt him in his apparently helpless position. The chief cause of Marlowe's hatred of Jack is that he has found favour in the eyes of Nellie Harrington, Sir James's daughter, who has rejected with scorn the head manager's offer of marriage. Jack, maddened at the thought of the danger which now threatens Nellie from Marlowe, frees himself from his shackles, breaks open the door of the cage, and, with the help of his faithful friends, Barney M'Guire, a foreman at the works, and Tod Small, a clerk, who becomes a jockey, binds the two rascals, thrusting Marlowe into the vacant cage and locking the door upon him.

The scene of the third act is the violent ward in a criminal insane asylum to which Trusdale has been consigned through the instrumentality of Marlowe. Here, also, is Wilson, whose brain has been temporarily affected by excessive drug taking and cigarette smoking. Trusdale and Marlowe again come into personal conflict, and the former is confined in a strait waistcoat, from which, after violent exertions, he releases himself, and smashing with a chair three of the iron bars of the window which have previously been nearly filed through, effects his escape. In the meantime Marlowe has been at work, and Nellie, kidnapped by him, is kept a prisoner by a gang of Italians, who live in an obscure riverside tenement. Marlowe, for pecuniary reasons, purposes marrying the girl and taking her abroad, but his plans are interrupted by the arrival of Trusdale, who, however, is attacked from behind by the chief of the Italian gang, rendered unconscious, and placed in a wooden box. With the help of Tod Small Nellie escapes disguised as a telegraph messenger; Jack extricates himself from the box, and the police being called in, Marlowe is given into charge for the murder of Sir James, Wilson having recovered his sanity and being quite willing to give evidence against the greater villain.

Mr. Cunning played the part of the hero in a bold, breezy style that quickly put him on the best of terms with the audience, and the successful accomplishment of each feat of combined strength and skill was greeted with tremendous applause. He had a special call at the end of the third act, and returned to the stage, breathless and exhausted, to thank the audience. At the conclusion of the play Mr. Cunning gave an interesting practical demonstration of scientific jail-breaking. Mr. Arthur Wingrave presented a powerful and thoroughly effective embodiment of the villain, Winston Marlowe. Mr. Almyr Vane gave a cleverly realistic portrayal of Robert Wilson, the victim to the nerve-shattering drug-taking, cigarette smoking habits. Mr. Arthur Byron was a capital representative of Barney M'Guire, and Mr. Frank Ayrton made equally good use of his opportunities as Tod Small. Mr. Walter Hamilton was well placed as Sir James Harrington, and Mr. George Benson as Dr. Paton and Mr. Edward Wynter as Warder Moffatt both deserve favourable mention. Miss Dorothy Richardson played in natural style and with much charm of manner the rôle of the heroine, Nellie Harrington; Miss Ida Thompson was bright and pleasing as Dot Underwood (Tod's sweetheart), and Miss Florence Lovvell was amusing as Mammy Caroline, a negro charwoman, who befriends the persecuted heroine. Excellent service was rendered by Mr. Sidney Humphreys and Mr. Bertram Dixon, keepers at the asylum; Messrs. Fred Millar, Frank Mackay, and Howard Veale as insane patients; Mr. Chas. Enaught as governor of the prison, and Mr. Paul Atherton as Paul Roversi, the chief of the Italian gang.

The play, which proved to be an admirable setting for the wonderful feats of Mr. Cunning, was presented by Mr. Barlowe Borland.

A delightful gathering took place at the Grand Hotel, Sheffield, on the 7th inst., when those ladies and gentlemen who have so actively interested themselves in the arrangements for the repertory season assembled to bid farewell to Mr. Orlando Barnett and his company. A presentation of Sheffield cutlery was made to each member of the company, Miss Radford gracefully performing that part of the ceremony. Mr. G. H. Simpson presided, and proposed the toast of "Our Company," in very felicitous terms, Mr. Barnett responding. The only other toast was that of the organising secretary, Mr. R. D. Bennett. Various members of the company contributed to the evening's programme, and Miss Lilias Hawson gave one of her delightful recitals.

A copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THEATRICAL LAW.

A MANAGER'S BANKRUPTCY APPLICATION.

At the Huddersfield Bankruptcy Court on March 6, before his Honour Judge Longstaffe, Ignatius John Frederick (otherwise known as Fred Benton), manager of the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, made an application for his discharge. Mr. A. E. T. Hinchcliffe (Messrs. Armitage, Sykes and Hinchcliffe) appeared for the debtor. The Official Receiver, Mr. Ellis Johnson, stated that the order of adjudication was made on Dec. 6, 1912. The first meeting of creditors was held on Dec. 23, 1912. The public examination was concluded on Jan. 13, 1913. According to the bankrupt's statement of affairs (submitted on Dec. 11), the liabilities to rank for dividend were estimated at £748 6s. 8d., but the proofs actually admitted at that date (£313 12s. 10d.) and the probable claims not yet admitted (£434 6s. 8d.) amounted to £747 19s. 6d. The assets were estimated to produce £32, but they had only realised to the present date £6 16s., and the probable value of the assets not yet realised, consisting of the copyright in two plays, was of a doubtful character. No dividend whatever had been paid or was likely to be paid to unsecured creditors unless a sale of the above-mentioned copyrights could be effected. The debtor, who at the date of the receiving order was 52 years of age, stated that he commenced business as a theatrical manager in partnership with Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson in 1894, and toured Great Britain with a play called "Rogues and Vagabonds" until about 1899, when the venture was abandoned, the play having ceased to be successful. Each partner put £100 into the business. In the last-named year the debtor recommenced business on his separate account with a capital of about £450, which he had saved from the partnership profits and his salary as an actor, and toured the country with several plays, including "The French Spy" and "The Life's Story." He carried on that business until January, 1908, when those plays became unproductive. From about July, 1902, to February, 1905, the debtor also carried on business as a theatre proprietor at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Wolverhampton, in partnership with Mr. F. J. Little. The debtor stated that he and his partner each put £100 capital into the business to commence with, and subsequently further sums amounting to £2,300, of which they each contributed a moiety. The debtor also stated that his share of the capital represented his savings from his salary as an actor and profits from touring as a theatre manager. The business at Wolverhampton was terminated by a fire that occurred at the theatre. The debtor estimated his and his partner's losses by this business at £2,500, including a loss of £700 which they had paid for the theatre bars, which sum was wholly lost as a result of the fire and the determination of the tenancy. The debtor was out of business and employment for about six months to December, 1910, when he became the manager of the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, which post he occupied at the date of the receiving order. The debtor scheduled five claims in his statement of affairs, amounting altogether to £1,148, but of this sum he only expected £748 to rank for dividend, on the ground that his liability in respect of a claim of £400, being the balance of the price of the goodwill of the theatre at Wolverhampton, had ceased, because the debt was merged in a judgment obtained against his former partner. No proof of debt had been lodged in the bankruptcy by this creditor, nor had any communication been received from him. It would seem that if the creditor in question had not obtained judgment against the debtor, the debt, which was contracted in or prior to 1905, was barred by the Statute of Limitations. Two of the liabilities disclosed in Schedule A of the statement of affairs, amounting to £50 and £10, were respectively due to Horton's Estate, Ltd., and Wilcock and Taylor for rent and professional services in connection with the Wolverhampton business. These debts were also contracted in 1905, and would appear to be barred by the Statute of Limitations. No communication had been received from either creditor since the bankruptcy. A third claim in Schedule A of the statement of affairs was for printing done by Messrs. Culliford and Sons in connection with "The Life's Story" tour, the debt having been contracted in 1903. The affairs of Messrs. Culliford and Sons passed into the hands of the Official Receiver of the High Court, and the debtor afterwards appeared to have had some correspondence with him in relation to overcharges. It did not appear whether or not such correspondence had the effect of suspending the continued operation of the Statute of Limitations, but no claim or communication had been made to the Official Receiver of this Court by the Official Receiver of the High Court in regard to the liability in question. The only other claims disclosed in the bankruptcy were respectively £1 18s. for income-tax under Schedule D, and the claim of Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd. In 1907 the debtor let on royalty to a Mr. Stanley Carlton a play called "The Secret Wedding," of which he was the author. The play was produced on several occasions, and the posters were supplied to Mr. Carlton, as required by him, by Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd., pursuant to an order given to them by the debtor. When production of the play ceased, Messrs. Allen held a considerable stock of the posters, viz., about £300 worth, and as the debtor declined to take delivery they sued him and obtained judgment for the price. The debtor did not appear to have received any direct consideration in respect of the liability, which was in the nature of a guarantee. He had, however, an interest in the venture by way of a royalty. The debtor's failure appeared to be wholly due to pressure by Messrs. Allen, who issued a judgment summons against him. The debtor filed a deficiency account for the three years immediately preceding his bankruptcy. It showed that his liabilities at the commencement of that period were the same as at the date of the receiving order, and that the whole of his salary for the three years, amounting to £516 10s., had been expended for household and personal purposes. The Official Receiver submitted that the bankrupt's assets were not of a value equal to 10s. in the £ on the amount of his unsecured liabilities. The bankrupt's conduct during the proceedings under his bankruptcy had been satisfactory. His Honour remarked that the living expenses had to be divided by three, as some portion of them would go in expenses incidental to the debtor's occupation, and which were not merely household or personal. Mr. Hinchcliffe said that it was not a case similar to those his Honour usually had to deal with. It was a straightforward, honest case, in which the debtor had the sympathy of everyone, and it was not a case in which he had been trading after he had known himself to be insolvent or had lived on his creditors' money. On the other hand, the only offence reported by the Official Receiver was their old friend which appeared in nine cases out of ten, viz., the assets were not of the value of 10s. in the £. The debtor had given all the assistance he could in the winding up of his affairs and in connection with his bankruptcy. The position had been brought about entirely by misfortune. Referring to the claim of Messrs. Allen, Mr. Hinchcliffe said that debtor had derived no personal benefit whatever from that transaction.

His Honour: I don't quite gather from the report how it was he came to take upon himself to give the order.

Mr. Hinchcliffe: No, it was unfortunate, but I can enlighten your Honour. The debtor, continued Mr. Hinchcliffe, was the author of, and had the right to produce, "The Secret Wedding," and, instead of telling Carlton to make his own arrangements with Allen's, he made them himself, as Allen's were anxious that debtor should order the posters, and in an unguarded moment he did so. "Actors and theatre managers," said Mr. Hinchcliffe, "have not quite the same business acumen other people have. They are easy going. I'll put it that way." Debtor agreed to give the order, and the order was given. Carlton paid for the posters up to a certain time, but the action brought against the debtor was in respect of posters not supplied to the larger order. He (Mr. Hinchcliffe) knew his Honour could not, even if he felt so disposed, grant an immediate discharge, and he recognised some condition must be attached to the discharge. Debtor was very anxious that he should not have a judgment hanging about him for a considerable time, and that the stigma of being a bankrupt should be removed. He felt it very keenly, and had communicated with his employers, Mr. Milton Bode and other gentlemen, and they had kindly come forward with the suggestion that if his Honour could see fit to treat the matter as one where the debtor was entitled to a certain amount of sympathy, and grant him an immediate discharge, they would find the sum of £25, to be paid cash down to the Official Receiver. That would be better than granting a discharge subject to judgment for a certain amount which might never be cleared, and which would always be there staring the debtor in the face. He hoped that under the circumstances his Honour would see his way to grant the application, and if so the £25 would be paid forthwith.

Debtor explained to his Honour how he came to give the order to Messrs. Allen for the printing, stating that he had been doing business with them for twenty years.

The Official Receiver said the amount offered by the debtor was merely a nominal one. He did not suggest that his Honour should deal too hardly with the debtor, but the sum was quite on the small side.

His Honour intimated that that was the view he took. The debtor was 53 years of age, and was in the way of earning money. There were many people who were in a position to put work in his way, and then there was his own character behind him, which rather tended to show that he was not afraid of work, and that he was anxious to get it. His Honour suggested that those who had offered to put down the £25 might have gone a little further.

Mr. Hinchcliffe stated that if the creditors had been other than Messrs. Allen they might perhaps have gone a little further, but they seemed to think that not much sympathy was due to Messrs. Allen. The latter had received a good deal of debtor's money in years gone by.

His Honour inquired whether debtor would be prepared to supplement the £25, and intimated that his idea was that he should consent to judgment for £125.

Mr. Hinchcliffe: That would practically cripple him for the rest of his life.

In reply to his Honour, Mr. Hinchcliffe said that the Huddersfield Theatre was one of the best of the provincial theatres, and debtor's wages there amounted to £4 5s., out of which he had to pay 30s. or 35s. per week for little oddments.

After a consultation with the debtor, Mr. Hinchcliffe said that if his Honour could see his way to grant the discharge subject to the payment of £50, the debtor would make every effort to pay that amount and get the thing out of the way.

His Honour said that unless the debtor would consent to judgment being entered for £75, the only alternative was to suspend the discharge for two years. His Honour granted the discharge, subject to the minimum suspension of two years under the Act.

Mr. Hinchcliffe intimated that if the debtor were in the future to find himself in the position to consent to the judgment for £75 he would do so.

MUSICIANS AND THEIR SALARIES.

There were nineteen plaintiffs in an action which came before Judge Woodfall in the Westminster County Court on Thursday. They were professional musicians, and they sued Mr. Frank B. Green and Mr. W. H. Dunn, who were formerly associated with the Yiddish Opera Company, for £27 10s., balance of salary due for services rendered when that company were playing at the Mile End Empire in the autumn of 1912.

Mr. H. Lupson Ward, counsel representing the plaintiffs, said that in the summer of last year Mr. Julius Nussbaum, a professional musician, was at Bexhill when he was asked by a member of the Yiddish Opera Company to get together an orchestra for dates in September, when the Opera Company would be playing at the Mile End Empire. This was done, Mr. Nussbaum organising an orchestra of nineteen performers. After rehearsals, for which there was no payment, the engagement commenced on Sept. 23, and the first week all the members of the orchestra received their money. The following week, however, no salaries were at first forthcoming, but the members of the band went on with the first act, and then Mr. Nussbaum received a sum which represented half of the musicians' wages, and a written guarantee was given, signed by the defendants, in which there was an undertaking to pay the balance. The performance accordingly went on, but on the following Monday the plaintiffs found the theatre shut up, and the balance of the wages due had never been paid.

Evidence having been given in support of counsel's opening statement, the two defendants, who conducted their own case, went into the witness-box.

Mr. Green, a director of the Opera Company, said the written guarantee was given on the second Saturday evening, the orchestra being represented by the National Federation of Professional Musicians. The members of the orchestra had intimated that they would not finish the performance until they received their money. They were told that they should have all the money taken at the evening performance, the management being of opinion that there would be enough to pay them. This expectation was, however, not realised, and after paying half the salaries it was decided to give a written agreement to pay the balance.

His Honour: Who wrote this agreement?

Witness: The managing-director of the company.

His Honour: But he is not sued.

Counsel: I am told the reason he was not sued was that my clients could not decipher his name.

Mr. Dunn explained that he had acted as secretary to the Opera Company, and was paid a salary. He signed the guarantee on behalf of the company.

Mr. Anthony Horschik, a member of the executive council of the National Federation of Professional Musicians, said that on the Saturday evening when the difficulty about payment arose he went to the Mile End Empire and saw Mr. Assen, the manager of the Opera Company. Mr. Assen gave him all the money he had, and this paid the orchestra half their salaries. The manager also gave the written guarantee demanded.

Counsel: You knew at the time that the company had got no money?—Yes.

Who wrote this guarantee out?—The manager.

Mr. Assen, in evidence, said he gave the guarantee on behalf of the company.

His Honour held that the agreement was given on behalf of the company, but that the defendant Green had made himself personally responsible by signing a warranty which promised "jointly and severally" to pay. The same responsibility attached to the manager, but he had not been sued. In the case of the defendant Dunn, he was the paid secretary of the company, and as such would naturally sign the warranty. He would therefore be dismissed from the action. His Honour added that he could quite understand that the directors of the Opera Company felt themselves in great difficulties on the particular Saturday night, for if the musicians had refused to play there might have been a riot in the theatre. He entered judgment against the defendant Green for the amount claimed, with costs, the money to be paid within a month.

SPLINTER CAUSES DEATH.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned on Monday, at a Marylebone inquest, on Edward Ford, aged 60, a scene-shifter, lately employed at the Gaiety Theatre, and living at Little Exeter-street, Lisson-grove. According to the evidence, on Feb. 26 he complained of getting a splinter into his thumb while engaged in moving scenery at the theatre. His hand became swollen, and on the following Thursday he went to see a doctor, who attended him twice daily until Saturday week. Blood-poisoning set in, and on the doctor's advice he went to St. Mary's Hospital, where an operation was performed. He went home and was attended by a nurse, but became worse and died last Wednesday. Dr. Boyd, of Upper Grosvenor-place, attributed death to exhaustion following septicæmia, caused by a splinter entering the thumb.

LOSSES ON PANTOMIMES.

At the London Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday last, before Mr. Egerton S. Grey, official receiver, the first meeting of creditors was held under the failure re George Brydon Phillips, described as a theatrical manager, of 14, Park-place, Maida Vale, W. The statement of affairs filed by the debtor disclosed gross liabilities amounting to £2,756 9s., of which £1,485 1s. 5d. was due to unsecured creditors, to fully secured creditors £454, to partly secured creditors £708. The total liabilities expected to rank against the estate for dividend were returned at £1,593 1s. 4d., and no assets, thus showing a deficiency of £1,593 1s. 4d.

The debtor had been a theatrical manager for the past twenty-one years, and had run touring companies on his own account. His principal tours had been for pantomime pieces. He had about £3,000 capital locked up in house property when he commenced business. His average income until 1902 was about £300 per annum. In that year he suffered a severe loss through a fire at the Crouch End Opera House, on Christmas Eve. He was insured in regard to the scenery and properties, but did not advise the insurance company that he had removed them from storage, consequently he could not claim any insurance money. He estimated his loss over that fire at about £1,000, and since then his business had gradually fallen off, and he had been compelled to borrow money from professional money-lenders. During last season he ran three touring companies, who produced the pantomimes "Little Red Riding Hood," "Puss in Boots," and "Sinbad the Sailor." On the first he made a profit of £10, but on the other two he made losses of £80 and £60 respectively. He had no company on tour at the present time, and was living on a voluntary allowance from his step-sister. He had a half-share in a drama called "Gone Wrong" and in a comic opera called "Kitty." He alleged his failure to have been caused through depreciation in the value of his house property, insufficient capital, inflated salaries by pantomime artistes, gradual decay of pantomimes, and to the formation of syndicates which had cut out the theatrical manager, also to a bad debt incurred with a person who was a bankrupt in the High Court. As the debtor was unable to make an offer of composition to his creditors, the estate was left in the hands of the Official Receiver for summary administration in the usual manner.

The report of Howard and Wyndham for the year ended Feb. 28 states that a combination of interests has been arranged with the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., which, it is believed, will prove mutually advantageous, and there is already evidence of this. Each company retains its own profits and remains liable for its own obligations. Howard and Wyndham have provided part of the working capital and have agreed to otherwise financially assist the company. Mr. Wyndham has been appointed managing-director of the company, and Mr. Michael Simons, chairman of Howard and Wyndham, has accepted the chairmanship of the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Mr. Heilborn, another director of Howard and Wyndham, having also joined the board. The net profits of Howard and Wyndham for the year, including £1,435 brought forward, amount to £14,829. The directors recommend a dividend of 10 per cent. and a bonus of 2½ per cent., that £2,000 be carried to dividend equalisation account, £1,500 to the investment reserve account, and £1,676 carried forward.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Monday, March 10, Mr. Frederick Delius's choral work, "A Mass of Life," was produced after nearly four years silence, by Mr. Thomas Beecham, the work having been heard at Queen's Hall at the last concert of his season of 1909. The North Staffordshire District Choral Society was brought to London to supply the chorus. The work was described at length on its original production, so there is no necessity for further comment, save in praise of the mastery of means and general loftiness of aim revealed by Delius in his music. The work is arranged for double chorus, solo voices, and orchestra, and the words chosen from Nietzsche's "Also Sprach Zarathustra" by Fritz Cassierer. Mr. William Wallace was answerable for the really excellent translation of the words, and has told us himself that they were taken from various parts of the book for musical purposes, and the text, therefore, was utilised as the theme for a commentary. There are passages of great descriptive beauty, yet as a whole, notwithstanding the skill shown by Delius on many pages of his very complex score, the impression remains that no small portion of Nietzsche's elusive philosophy scarcely lends itself to appropriate use even for the purposes of a "musical commentary." That the performance itself was such as to conceal the difficulties of the work cannot be said, although the North Staffordshire District Choral Society are a well-equipped body of singers. Mr. Charles W. Clark, the baritone, had the principal part, singing the English version; Madame Gura-Hummel, Miss Doris Woodall, and Mr. Frederick Blamey singing the German text. Mr. Clark, overcoming the difficulties of the music, sang his share like a true artist, and giving the more lyrical passages with beauty of voice and expression. In conclusion, the Beecham Symphony Orchestra came well through their task, and Mr. Beecham, who conducted, received a very hearty reception at the close of the performance.

A riot took place in the Costanza Theatre, Rome, on Sunday night, during a performance by the Futurists. When Maestro Pratella appeared to conduct a Futurist overture, the orchestra was bombarded with apples, potatoes and oranges, and several of the instruments were smashed. Undismayed by this hostile reception, Marinetti himself appeared on the stage to recite a Futurist poem, but he was shouted down. Hand to hand fighting broke out between Futurists and demonstrators, and the fighting was continued in the streets.

MR. J. M. GLOVER AT PLYMOUTH.

The last has not been heard of Mr. J. M. Glover's application in respect of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, which the authorities refused to sanction. The following is a copy of a letter he has addressed to each member of the Plymouth Corporation in reference to the recent application made by him for Sunday concerts:—

"An application recently made by me as Managing-Director of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, to the Watch Committee for permission on the part of the licensee to give Sunday concerts, has been referred for confirmation to the Borough Council. The Watch Committee, in its discretion, has declined to entertain the proposal, and if the full Council should approve that decision, I must be content. May I respectfully suggest that the matter is one of sufficient importance to be reconsidered? I think the circumstances are unusual and such as to entitle this application (with all due respect to the Watch Committee) to reconsideration and review.

"(1) The Theatre Directors are tenants of the Corporation; as such, the greater the success of the Theatre, the greater the improvement of the Corporation's property.

"(2) The Theatre is one of the largest rate-paying properties in the borough, contributing over a thousand pounds per annum in rates—an extra reason for soliciting further consideration.

"(3) The Theatre Royal property has for some years now been in troublous waters; it shows signs of emerging from this environment into a haven of good fortune, or at least, commercial prosperity. As a local proposition it is useless without the patronage of London successes. To secure these visits, it has been found necessary to give very large terms—not justified by the very heavy local burthens.

"(4) The greater the merit of the attractions the better it is for the town, the county, and the borough generally. We pay a very large rental, and the Sunday concerts might relieve that liability in some small way, and, incidentally, improve the tram receipts, and thus further assist the rates. Repainting, decoration, etc., has in this first year necessitated a capital outlay of £1,000.

"(5) Sunday concerts already exist on Plymouth Pier in this district and in the neighbouring towns (of course, under other licensing authorities), so that in refusing us any possible privilege of profit, we are being placed in a prejudicial and anomalous position.

"(6) The concerts would be conducted by me—and my position in London and the nine months' management I have put in at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, are sufficient guarantees that nothing would be done except of the very highest calibre. Under general conditions the concerts would be of the same species as those of the Queen's Hall, London, patronised on Sundays by the late King Edward VII. on many occasions, and after payment of expenses I would be pleased to hand any surplus over to local charities.

"Under these circumstances, may I presume to have the matter further considered?"

Sunday concerts, states Mr. Glover, are already given "officially" by the following boroughs' corporations:—

Harrogate Corporation, at the local Kursaal, built by the corporation at a cost of £75,000.

Bournemouth Corporation, on the Pier.

Portsmouth Corporation, on the Corporation's own Pier.

Brighton Corporation, in the town's own Aquarium.

Rhyl Borough Council, in their own Pavilion.

Hastings Corporation, on the Promenade and in the town's own parks and pleasure grounds.

Bexhill Corporation, who have recently bought a £15,000 Colonnade for concerts, twice daily and on Sundays.

The "Western Morning News" has received the following letters in reply to Mr. Glover's on the municipal theatre:—

Sir,—As a visitor from London, where the name and fame of Mr. Forbes-Robertson are so well known, I was surprised to read the sarcastic comments of the manager of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, on the references which the great actor made to the municipal theatre in his graceful valedictory speech on Saturday night. Mr. Forbes-Robertson is an artiste who is an ornament to his profession, and as an artiste is desirous of elevating the taste of the public. If the manager found it necessary to disagree with him on the subject of the municipal theatre, surely it was not necessary for him to indulge in what reads like gratuitous offensiveness and innuendo. To a gentleman of Mr. Forbes-Robertson's standing it is not in good taste. However, the manager of the "Royal" does not confine his sarcasm to the great actor, but cheerfully extends it to his own patrons, the "lusty souls" who dared to approve Mr. Forbes-Robertson's remarks by their cheers. They can, however, bear with the "jeers" of the manager, and on a question of Art are more likely to pin their faith to Mr. Forbes-Robertson than to the aforesaid manager.

Plymouth, March 4. A "LUSTY SOUL."

Sir,—May I crave a share of your space to reply to Mr. Glover? It is not always the actor who has made his pile and contemplates retirement who wants a municipal theatre, though many are not independent enough to advocate it publicly, as did Mr. Forbes-Robertson.

Sir Henry Irving died a poor man, but years before encouraged it, and still upheld till the last the loftiest creeds of his calling. Mr. Glover may die a poor man without achieving or encouraging anything in particular. He may reply that others may do the same! Possibly. But they don't brag about it!

The municipal theatre may be an ideal—an imaginative dream too Utopian for practical realisation in England, but the fact remains that it has proved a genuine success in Germany, Russia, and frequently in France, despite all Mr. Glover may say. To speak about the "artistic impotence" of the municipal theatre on the Continent and to say "the world has never benefited from the State-subventioned theatre" is to handle the truth rather carelessly when one bears in mind the noble work achieved by the Comédie Française in Paris and the Imperial Theatres of Berlin, St. Petersburg, and elsewhere. Bernhardt, Coquelin, Guitry, and others made a name at the former institution before they broke away. It was the fact that enabled them to do so, and when they found that they could make more money outside.

In addition to the opera company of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, which Sir Augustus Harris brought over from Germany, it may be remembered that Drury Lane also entertained the Saxe-Meiningen company, whose productions and performances of the legitimate drama were a revelation to London playgoers.

The ages of the two stars in the German Opera company brought over in the days of Mr. Glover's youth have as little to do with art as the combined ages of the directors of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, have to do with business. And what the public want in the way of "education" and "parochial legislation" they will probably get.

March 5, 1913. A PLAYGOER.

Miss Hettie Cavendish writes:—Will you correct a printer's error of last week, and give equal prominence? In your notice of "The Regiment" at the Comedy Theatre, I am the Mother is attributed to Miss Ha... is played by me.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree appeared before the curtain at His Majesty's on Wednesday night, the last of "Drake," and made the formal announcement that on Easter Monday he would produce a new play, of which he had high hopes, called "The Happy Island."

Sir Herbert's part of Derrek Arden is that of a man full of the joy of living, a buoyant adventurer, who is sent to govern a happy colony which is being exploited by an English speculator. Derrek's changes of sentiment and adventures constitute the chief interest. There will be some novel and picturesque scenic effects in the production, which will not involve the abandonment of the usual Shakespearean festival at His Majesty's.

The story of "Typhoon," the play which is to follow "The Pretenders" at the Haymarket on April 2, with Mr. Laurence Irving in the leading part, deals with the effect of the contact of Western life on Japanese ideals and character. The scene is Paris. A young Japanese, an important agent of his Government, falls in love with a French girl, and then discovers that she is the mistress of a poet. When the "Jap" tells her they must part she weeps, abuses him, and ends by insulting the Mikado. Horrified by the sacrilege, he strangles her. One of his countrymen assumes the guilt of the murder, and the play ends with the heroic statement: "Death has got to be, and counts not greatly; what does count greatly is life and duty." There is some neat, sharp dialogue in a scene in which the wits of the Japanese and French criminal lawyer are pitted against each other.

Mr. George Edwardes hopes to produce "The Magic Film" at the Gaiety early in April, and about a month later will present Miss Gladys Unger's version of "The Marriage Market" at Daly's.

The run ends to-night of "The Indian Mutiny" at Prince's, and on Saturday next Messrs. Walter and Fredk. Melville will present a revival of "Romeo and Juliet," with Mr. Henry Lonsdale and Miss Lilian Mallowes in the leading parts.

Mr. Arthur Collins will revive next Christmas his beautiful pantomime, "The Sleeping Beauty," which ended its present run on Wednesday night. But for Mr. Forbes-Robertson's appearance on Easter Saturday the Christmas annual would have run well into the summer. Mr. George Graves, Mr. Will Evans, Mr. Wilfred Douthitt, Miss Florence Smithson, Miss Renee Mayer, and most of the present cast will return to Drury Lane for the revival, which will contain some fresh and attractive features.

Mr. T. H. Bazley, the Controller of the Cathedral and Parish Church of Manchester, has forwarded to Mr. C. I. Coltson a cheque for £13 16s. for the Actors' Benevolent Fund, that amount being the result of a collection which was made by the Right Rev. Bishop Welldon at the cathedral for the benefit of the fund.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will open the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-on-Avon, under the direction of Mr. F. R. Benson, on Monday, April 21, when Mr. Bourchier will deliver a lecture on "Drama and Shakespeare." Mr. F. R. Benson and company will appear that evening in "Richard II.," and among those who take part in the festival will be Mrs. F. R. Benson, Mrs. Gordon Woodhouse, Miss Violet Woodhouse, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mrs. C. C. Stopes, the Birmingham Repertory Company, Miss Nancy Price, Miss Jean Stirling MacKinlay, the Elizabethan Stage Society, and the Oxford University Dramatic Society. The programme will include "Richard II.," "Henry IV." (Part 2), "Henry V.," "Richard III.," "Hamlet," "Much Ado About Nothing," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," "The Taming of the Shrew," "As You Like It," "Troilus and Cressida," and "The Rivals."

Mr. Bouchier's cast for 'The Greatest Wish" at the Garrick on the 20th inst. includes besides himself Mr. Farren Soutar, Mr. Thomas Sidney, Mr. Frank J. Arlton, Mr. W. S. Hartford, Mr. Archibald Maclean, Mr. Clifford Heatherley, Mr. E. Percival Clark, Mr. W. Hubert, and Miss Henrietta Watson, Miss Barbara Gott, Miss Beatrice May, Miss Isabel Jeans, Miss Aimee de Burgh, Miss Maud Milton, Miss Nina Bentley, Miss Agnes Thornton, Miss Florence Piggot, Miss Edith King, and Miss Joyce Ruby. The Prologue takes place seventeen years ago in the Presbytery of SS. Peter and Paul's Chapel in a little street in the neighbourhood of Covent-garden. The second scene of the third act is laid in the Garden of the Ursuline Convent, Cappoquin, Waterford. There are an abbess and four nuns in the list of personages.

Mr. Leonard Boyne underwent a serious operation at a nursing home on the 6th inst., but we are glad to learn that he has got over it well, and that his condition is encouraging. It is over four weeks since he was compelled to relinquish his rôle in "General John Regan," but he recently returned to it for one night, on the occasion of the King's visit to the Apollo. This return has nothing to do with Mr. Boyne's relapse. Mr. Boyne's place in the cast of "General John Regan," at the Apollo, has been definitely taken up by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy.

On Saturday died Mr. George Delacher, who for some twenty-five years was honorary secretary of the Green Room Club. He was a member when the club was housed in the old premises in Bedford-street. Mr. Delacher when a young man accompanied Madame Adelina Patti on one of her tours; but the Green Room Club was his hobby, and a comfortable private income gave him leisure to attend to it. He was found unconscious on the floor of his bedroom on Friday, and on Saturday he died very quietly.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, who met with an accident at Los Angelos, California, on Thursday, her motor-car colliding with a truck, sent the following wire to Mr. W. Clarkson:—"Sauvée miraculeusement; Mille Amities; Sarah."

The following will be the cast of "The Passing f the Third Floor Back" when Mr. Forbes-obertson revives it on Easter Monday:—A Cheat, iss Augusta Haviland; A Slut, Miss Gertrude liott; A Painted Lady, Miss Maud Buchanan; Shrew, Miss Stella St. Audrie; A Snob, Miss live Richardson; A Bully, Mr. Montague utherford; A Hussy, Miss Amy Brandon Thomas; A Satyr, Mr. H. Athol Forde; A Coward, Mr. lex. Scott-Gatty; A Rogue, Mr. Frank Lacy; A Cad, Mr. Alexander Cassy; and a Passer-by, Mr. Forbes-Robertson. It will be followed by "The Sacrament of Judas," in which Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty, Mr. Grendon entley, Mr. H. Athol Forde, and Miss Gertrude Elliott will appear.

Several changes have been made in the second t of "The Dancing Mistress," at the Adelphi, ng the new numbers being a song for Miss ie Millar, a duet for Miss Millar and Mr. Coyne, and a duet for Miss Gracie Leigh Blakeley. Lent in no way affected the this popular house, where the ad- is so large that additional rows of to be put on.

Mr. Percy Hutchison will produce and appear in "Officer 666" at the Opera House, Southport, on Easter Monday. The principal parts will be played by Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Claire Milvain, Miss Laura Hansen, Mr. Heaton Grey, Mr. F. G. Thurstans, Mr. Stanley Killby, Mr. Alfred Wiltshire, etc. The entire London production has been transferred from the Globe Theatre. The regular tour will start in August. Mr. Hutchison returns to "Brewster's Millions" to complete the spring tour, which will include Liverpool, Nottingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Blackpool, Hanley, Oxford, Cambridge, and a special week at Crewe for the King's visit.

Mr. Carl Leyel and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh will shortly enter into joint management at the Comedy Theatre, where they will produce on Thursday, April 3, a new play by Mr. Frank Stayton called "The Inferior Sex." It is in three acts, two of which will take place on board a yacht. Mr. Kenneth Douglas will play the hero, Charles Winslow, who is a woman-hater; and Miss Renee Kelly, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. Arthur Grenville, and Mr. Gerald Ames will also be in the cast.

Miss Addie Adair, Miss Nelly Jay, and Little Maisie Mignon, members of Mr. Pitt-Hardacre's "East Lynne" Company, had an unpleasant experience at Leigh on Tuesday. Shortly after midnight the neighbourhood was aroused by an alarm of fire, and the above-mentioned ladies were rudely awakened by loud knockings at the street door of the house in which they had their apartments. A candle factory next door was on fire; and the firemen and police deemed it expedient for them to remove to a place of safety. They went out into the streets in scant attire; but the neighbours showed them every kindness, and they were quickly under hospitable roofs. The factory was entirely gutted, and the ladies and little girl were no worse for their novel, but unpleasant, experience.

Mr. Norman Partriege, who is playing Mercutio in Mr. Richard Flanagan's revival of "Romeo and Juliet" at the New Theatre, Manchester, recently lost his wife and child under very distressing circumstances. Mrs. Partriege gave birth to a child on the 7th inst., but during the night both mother and infant died. As Miss Betty Manners Mrs. Partriege was almost as well known as her husband by her acting with her husband in Shakespearean plays. Mr. Partriege had only been married two years.

The funeral of Mrs. Norman Partriege took place at Weaste Cemetery, Manchester, on Tuesday last at 3.50 p.m. A crowd of between six and seven thousand people assembled to testify their sympathy with Mr. Partriege in his terrible bereavement. Numerous floral tributes of great beauty were sent by sorrowing friends, among them being: Mr. and Mrs. Kay, Flo and Pattie, New Theatre, Manchester, staff, Mr. George Horrocks, Mr. Richard Flanagan, Mr. Arthur Hardy, Mr. Ryder Boys, Miss Margaret Halstan, Mr. Edmonton Shirra, the members of "Romeo and Juliet" company, Mr. and Mrs. Dunkerley, Mr. and Mrs. Meefiss, Mr. G. Hill, Miss Daisy Cryers, Miss Hogarth, Miss Clara Saunt, customers of the Brunswick Hotel, Mr. Bickerstaff, Mrs. Birke, Miss Sallie and Mr. Andrew Hogarth, "Little Andrew," Miss Pattie Marshall, Miss Flo Billington, Mr. Clayton, Mr. Fred Pemberton, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Smith, Matron of the Skin Hospital, Manchester, Mr. Cook, and many others.

Mr. Norman Partriege desires to thank his friends and the general public for their kind letters of condolence received by him upon his great bereavement, and for the many beautiful floral tributes of their sorrow and sympathy.

The last performance of "The Son and Heir" at the Strand Theatre will take place this evening. On Easter Monday the house will be reopened with "The Woman in the Case," the cast of which will be as follows:—Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Nora Lancaster, Miss Mary Griffiths, Miss Gwenda Drew, Miss Rita Jonson, Mr. William F. Grant, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Mr. E. Dagnall, Mr. J. Parish Robertson, Mr. Martin Henry, Mr. Arthur Bell, and Mr. Lambert Plummer.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held on March 7. Present: Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. William Giffard, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. Sam Livesay, Mr. Ernest E. Norris, Mr. Frank Weatherby, Mr. Leslie Owen, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. W. Muskerry Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). A letter from the Actors' Association agreeing to co-operate with the Touring Managers' Association in taking active measures against offenders in cases of bogus managements, agents, and artistes, and illegal breaking of agreements, was read, and the secretary was directed to send a letter of thanks. A member sent his returns at a provincial theatre, and reported that the place was bitterly cold during the week he played there. The secretary was directed to enter the particulars in the register kept for the information of members. Two members reported a dispute with a firm of carriers, and the secretary was directed to write to the firm in question for an explanation.

Owing to the wet weather experienced last year the committee of the Theatrical Garden Party in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, which will be held in the Royal Hospital Gardens, Chelsea, on Tuesday, June 3, have specially hired Piggott's patent ideal ventilated fabric, as adopted by the Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912, a huge structure with open sides, covering in an area of about three acres and capable of affording shelter to the entire fête, if necessary. The structure will be fitted so as to represent a beautiful garden.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has after an interval of two years absence from the "road," decided to once more join the happy and hopeful band of touring-managers. He has commissioned Mr. Charles Darrell to write him an entirely new drama, which he will produce early this autumn at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith. Needless to say this piece will be played by the best available company, and staged in Mr. Croke's first-class manner. Mr. Wentworth Croke has decided, starting with Easter Monday, to run the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, on the twice-nightly system.

Miss Lillian Aubrey has secured a new play by Ivan Patrick Gore, entitled "Her One False Step," which she is touring this summer and autumn with a strong cast, including Miss Aubrey, Miss Amber Wyville, Miss Maude Stuart, Mr. Geo. Edwin Clive, etc. The play deals with the iniquities of some of the so-called nursing establishments and is likely to open a big discussion. All the business is in the hands of Mr. George Edwin Clive, and a long tour, comprising most of the first-rate dramatic houses, is already booked.

Mr. Brandon Thomas's "Charley's Aunt" company, which, since its Christmas season terminated at the Little Theatre, has been visiting Manchester, Leicester, Hastings, and Folkestone, and will continue its non-stop run right up to Midsummer, will be at the Coronet next week.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, who has now been laid up for nearly seven weeks consequent upon his accident, continues, we are glad to hear, to make excellent progress. This week he has been able to do a little walking without the aid of crutches. He hopes to return to his office at the end of next week.

Miss Ella Erskine, the well-known actress and poet, whose Browning matinées last season will be readily recalled, is giving a Dramatic Reading of Swinburne's fascinating poem-tragedy, "Chastelard," at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement on Sunday, March 30, at 8 o'clock. The reading will be under the patronage of Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Theodore Watts-Dunton, the well-known poet and life-long friend of Swinburne.

Miss Erskine, herself an ardent Jacobite, will read the absorbing part of Mary Stuart; Mr. Noel Phelps that of Darnley; Mr. Henderson Bland, Murray; and Mr. Clarence Derwent, the ill-fated poet and lover of the Queen Chastelard. Other participants in an exceptionally strong cast will be Miss Ruth Bower, Miss Phyllis Birkett, Miss Lily Kerr, Miss Rita Denison, and Messrs. George Fitzgerald, Frederick Moyes, Benedict Butler, Langhorne Burton, Shakespeare Stewart, etc. This will, we believe, be the first public reading of the play, and should, in consequence, attract a large and appreciative audience.

Mr. Gore Ouseley has secured an exceptionally strong cast for his forthcoming tour of "The Cingalee." Teddy Staples will play Cham., whilst the other parts are in the capable hands of such well-known artistes as Hebe Bliss, Cissy Sephton, Daisy Lake, Jack Crichton, George Mudie, jun., Sam Lockridge, Walter Uridge, etc. Miss Queenie Lang will again charm with her exquisitely-rendered Eastern dances.

Mr. J. V. Bryant, who has been playing John Rutherford in "Rutherford and Son," at the Little Theatre, New York, returns to England on March 14.

Mr. W. Clarkson made several of the prettiest and best designed costumes for the Artistes' Revel Ball at Covent Garden on Wednesday.

Miss Ethel Hodgkins is to play the part of Queen Elizabeth in the forthcoming tour of "Drake" which starts at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Monday.

Mr. Vernon J. Sansbury, of 11, Blakemore-road, Streatham, who died at the Middlesex Hospital on Tuesday, was well known in the provinces, where for nearly 20 years he played many juvenile leads. He for some time played the juvenile lead with the late Mr. George Daventry in the "Indian Mutiny," and it is a sad coincidence that his fatal illness overtook him on the reproduction of this well-known drama at the Lyceum. He also took leading parts in "Arizona," "The Great Ruby," and "Woman and Wine." Up to recently he was playing the heavy part in Mr. Melville's touring company, "The Monk and the Woman," but was forced to give up at Portsmouth in January.

During the absence of Mr. Arthur Bourchier from the cast of "Trust the People" last week, his part of John Greenwood was taken and very satisfactorily played by Mr. Herbert Bunston, and that of the Prime Minister by Mr. George Bealby.

We are asked to state that the report that the season of Jewish plays at the Mile End Empire is closing is quite unfounded.

Mr. George Dance sends "Drake" to the Borough Theatre on Monday next and to Kennington for Easter week, after which the company will tour the provinces.

Miss Ethel Irving will open her season at the Globe Theatre on Tuesday, April 1, with a new comedy by Ernest Denny, the author of "All-of-a-Sudden Peggy."

The annual festival of the British Empire Shakespeare Society is to be held at Weston-super-Mare this year. Four evening performances and two matinées will be given in the Knightstone Pavilion, and there will be also a Shakespearean ball and reception. The play selected for reading is "The Merchant of Venice," which will be given by two separate casts, selected from all parts of the country.

Mr. Thomas Quinlan has settled upon the programme which is to be given during the short season of the Quinlan Grand Opera Company at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, commencing Monday, May 5. Instead of beginning with the first division of "The Ring," it has been arranged to begin with "Rigoletto," with Miss Felice Lyne as Gilda. "The Rhinegold" will be given on the Tuesday, "The Valkyries" on the Wednesday, "Siegfried" on the Thursday," "The Twilight of the Gods" on the Friday, "Tales of Hoffmann" on the Saturday afternoon, and "Faust" on the Saturday evening.

Those indefatigable "producers"- the Play Actors will present at the Court to-morrow, a new comedy, called "These Suburbans," by Mr. Cecil Clifton. The cast will include Mr. Sebastian Smith, Mr. F. Llewellyn, Mr. Clifton Alderson, Mr. Alfred Harris, Mr. J. Napper, Miss Irene Moncrieff, Miss Helen Parsons, and Miss Dulcie Greatwich.

Yet another play-producing association—the Advance Players, which has been formed "to encourage the translation and adaptation of plays and not to produce pieces by fashionable authors who have eleven pieces going in London at the present time." The new society will give women opportunities which, the promoters hold, are lacking elsewhere; but there will be no "sex bar," and male dramatists will receive consideration. The first performance will be given early in April, when "Luigi's Wife," by Mrs. de la Pasture, will be played by Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. C. Vane, and others, and also a new and original three-act play, with Miss Kate Cutler as a woman doctor.

Mr. A. V. Bramble, who has been in a nursing home for the last five weeks, but is now convalescent, hopes to be at work again shortly.

The present series of performances of "Peter Pan" at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, are proving among the most successful that have yet been given in Liverpool. Miss Pauline Chase's popularity is apparently greater than ever, and the desire to see this famous artiste, and to witness the delicate fantasy and the colourful episodes of Mr. J. M. Barrie's piece, combine to attract all and sundry. The last matinée will be given to-day (Saturday). Next week, the Shakespeare Theatre will be closed until Saturday evening (March 22). On that night the first Liverpool performance of the brilliantly successful comedy, "Ready Money," will be given by Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company from the New Theatre, London. "Ready Money" has been the conspicuous success of the last few months in the metropolis, and provided Mr. Allan Aynesworth with an admirable means of commencing his career as an actor-manager. Another opportunity will doubtless occur of referring in more detail to the most engaging features of this piece, which, it may be said, is particularly rich in the quality of true entertainment.

"OPEN WINDOWS."

New Play, in Three Acts, by A. E. W. Mason, Produced at the St. James's Theatre, on Tuesday, March 11.

John Herrick ..... Sir George Alexander
Sir Henry Cluffe .... Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds
Captain Cluffe ..... Mr. Reginald Malcolm
Philip Brook ..... Mr. Sydney Valentine
Henri Fournier ..... Mr. A. E. Benedict
Hobbs ..... Mr. H. Templeton
Footman ..... Mr. John Ridley
Howard ..... Mr. Austin Fehrman
Lady Cluffe ..... Miss May Whitty
Cynthia Herrick ..... Miss Irene Vanbrugh
Elsie Herrick ..... Miss Rosalie Toller

Mr. A. E. W. Mason is best known to playgoers as the author of "Colonel Smith," which was produced at the Comedy Theatre in 1909, and of "The Witness for the Defence," which was done at the St. James's in the February of last year. His latest piece, which was produced at the same theatre on Tuesday, is distinctly interesting. It may, indeed, be described as a problem, or rather "theorem," play, the question which is discussed being the amount of uneasiness a husband ought to feel when he learns that his wife has "gone wrong" with another man before her marriage. This, however, is not the only point at issue. Results affect feeling almost as much as offences do; and, in the case of Philip Brook and Cynthia Herrick, the result was a baby who was fathered on John Herrick, whom Cynthia married before the child was born. To the question above propounded is added the query, What is to be done with the "result"? The theorem is solved by the conclusion that the husband should look over the offence and retain his wife and the—one cannot say "their"—offspring.

The situation, the development of which is the demonstration of the theory, is arranged by the author as follows: The (pre-nuptially) erring wife was Cynthia Harland, a young miniature painter living in Paris. When studying painting in Paris she makes the acquaintance of a certain adventurous young man named Philip Brook, becomes engaged to him, and—possibly under the influence of the Parisian atmosphere — also enciente. This Brook is emphatically a "bad egg." He is venomously jealous, and even in his obscurity he adds to his offences by writing a book, basely libelling a deceased politician. To add to his discomfiture, Cynthia, finding herself enciente, has consented in Brook's absence to marry John Herrick, a poor but ambitious young man, and even to live with him in decent dulness at a villa in West Norwood.

Herrick makes a fortunate speculation, goes in for politics, and becomes a member of the Cabinet; while Brook, almost starving in Paris, is taken up, at Cynthia's suggestion, by a good-natured country gentleman, Sir Henry Cluffe who engages the broken man as his secretary.

So matters stand when Herrick comes down to Sir Henry's place to get some data respecting lead-poisoning in factories which Sir Henry and Brook have been compiling. Brook meets Cynthia, and explains to her how his fear of losing her led to his abandonment of his attempt on Mount Everest. She begs him not to "give her away" to her husband, and Brook—who is a curious mixture of spitefulness and indecision—promises not to do so. He does not keep his promise; for he leaves on a table where Herrick is sure to see it a miniature of Cynthia painted by herself, and given by her to Brook when they were living together in Paris. Herrick has an active mind, and this once directed towards suspicion makes him miserable. He tries to reassure himself by questioning Cynthia; but her self-contradictions and evasions only convince him that she went wrong before he married her. He takes it very much to heart at first, and the second act ends with his deep dejection.

In the last act Brook, who behaves very badly throughout, wants to cause more trouble than he has made already, and demands the possession of Elsie as his daughter, or, at least, that she shall be told the truth and asked to choose between him and Herrick, who very generously proposes a separation between himself and Cynthia, whom he will allow to have Elsie. In the end, however—it should be stated that in the course of their married life Cynthia has "learned to love him"—they agree to remain united, and Brook, bad as he is, is not quite bad enough to spoil Elsie's approaching marriage with the young governor of a province near Khartoum, to which the happy pair are to be honourably exiled.

"Open Windows" keeps one's attention on the alert by its multiplicity of detail, and by one's uneasy expectation of something about to happen; and the happy ending—resulting from the fortunate fact that the husband keeps the "windows" of his mind open, and does not allow himself to be influenced by conventional prejudices—comes agreeably to allay our anxieties. The piece was capitally acted. Sir George Alexander's part of John Herrick fitted him most fortunately. He showed just the type of man apparently designed by the author—natural, but naturally wise; clever yet kindly; perceptive but with a strong sense of justice. One of the "points" of the play was the proof of Herrick's real greatness by the way in which he bore himself in adversity; and Sir George, in the latter portions of the piece, gave the idea of a thoroughly self-reliant and superior character. He supplied, with his usual skill, the impression of ease and good breeding. Mr. Sydney Valentine, by his deep and trenchant performance as Philip Brook, began by interesting the audience in the "under-dog's" favour; and it was only after thorough demonstration of his currishness that, as the play proceeded, they gave Brook up as the hopelessly mean "villain of the play." If anything could have made the scamp acceptable, it would have been Mr. Valentine's reading of the rôle; but the task was an impossible one. Miss Irene Vanbrugh was a most arresting and stimulating Cynthia, and kept the audience wondering what Mrs. Herrick was really made of. This titillating—almost irritating—uncertainty kept the attention on the alert, and had a great deal to do in preventing the spirit of the piece—which is rather agreeable than deeply enthralling—from flagging. The analysis of the character by the author was incomplete—a play is not the proper vehicle for analysis—but we gathered enough of Cynthia's motives to forgive her everything except having ever cared for such a rascal as Brook. The scenes of pretty and plausible lying and the scenes of sincere sentiment were created by Miss Vanbrugh with the same subtle skill and piquant charm. Miss May Whitty gave an easy and effective impersonation of the emphatic but amiable Lady Cluffe; and Miss Rosalie Toller was delightfully ingenuous as Elsie Herrick, suggesting the increased independence of the modern girl quite cleverly. Mr. A. E. Benedict was vivaciously diverting as Henri Fournier, a French artist; Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds was duly bluff and simple as Sir Henry Cluffe; and Mr. Reginald Malcolm was bright and manly as Elsie's fiancé, Captain Cluffe. The cordial feeling of the audience towards the piece and its players was shown by the way in which, after giving way to irresistible laughter at the plucky struggles of Mr. Benedict with a recalcitrant moustache, they gave the actor a special round of applause after his exit. "Open Windows" had a favourable reception, and Sir George Alexander, in response to demands for the author, stated that Mr. Mason was not in the house.

"BOUGHT AND PAID FOR."

Play, in Four Acts, by George Broadhurst, Produced at the New Theatre on Wednesday, March 12.

Robert Stafford .....Mr. Allan Aynesworth
James Gilley .....Mr. Frank Craven
Oku .....Mr. Giro Kim
A Waiter .....Mr. J. H. Stewart
Virginia Blaine ....Miss Alexandra Carlisle
Fanny Blaine .....Miss Alice Crawford
Josephine .....Miss Sonia Bourcard

An interesting problem is put before us in the latest American-bred play to arrive in this country, "Bought and Paid For," by Mr. George Broadhurst, produced at the New Theatre on Wednesday night under the direction of the author and Mr. Allan Aynesworth. The problem is: "Is a woman who loves her husband justified in leaving him when she discovers that he is a drunkard?" According to Mr. Broadhurst she is justified; but we do not think he is strictly logical, either in his finding or its results. The wife leaves her husband, not to frighten him into sobriety, but to save her self-respect. To our mind the motive, being selfish, is wrong; and in real life would have resulted in the man taking unto himself seven other devils worse than the first.

A successful financier, Robert Stafford, is much attracted by a pretty telephone girl, Virginia Blaine, and asks her to marry him. Virginia hesitates a little. She is not quite convinced either of Robert's love or of her own; but his obvious sincerity impresses her, and she is further influenced by her sister Fanny and Fanny's fiancé, James Gilley, a shipping clerk, a delightful person, with an inordinate opinion of his own abilities, a caustic humour, and a fund of worldly philosophy. The marriage takes place; and two years later we find Virginia a fashionable lady with a maid, a motor, many jewels, and other encumbrances of wealth. With her prosperity the material well-being of Jimmy and his Fanny have also improved. They are now the happy possessors of a baby and a sufficient income, both of which James considers the natural outcomes of his own striking superiority, though he admits that Robert has "given him a chance." To poor Virginia wealth has not brought happiness. Does she now love her husband? Yes, sometimes, when he is sober; for reversing the usual order of things he is "verra, verra happy when he's sober, but a meeserable deevil when he's fou." To his wife, who has just returned from the opera with a certain Mr. and Mrs. Gilley, comes Robert one night, very drunk and not by any means for the first time. To begin with, he is foolishly amiable and vinously affectionate, makes mighty promises to James and Fanny, whose "cadging" instincts are fully awake, and "slobbers" affectionately at his wife. She, poor soul, manages to keep his amorous advances in check until the Gilleys bid them good night. Then comes her ordeal. Robert calls for more wine, refuses to listen to his wife's entreaties, and becomes annoyed when she declines to drink with him. Then, when he sees her distaste in her face, the brute in him comes uppermost. She tries to escape; but he snarlingly forbids her to leave the room, commands her to submit to his drunken embraces, and, when she struggles to escape from his arms, throws at her the taunt that she has married him without loving him—he had bought her, he says, bought and paid for her, and she is his property to do as he likes with. Stung to the quick Virginia fights herself free; and, flying to her room, turns the key in the lock. But the drunken sot pursues her; and, finding the door locked, batters at it. As the curtain descends a panel gives way, and he rushes triumphantly after his unhappy wife.

The next morning Robert, courteous, gentle, lovable, and very repentant, with a terrible "head" and a worse conscience, seeks Virginia to prostrate himself at her feet. But Robert has sinned once too often; this time he finds an implacable wife. All the foolish words of the night before, unremembered by him, have eaten into her heart He has bought and paid for her—yes, for her body, perhaps, but not for her soul. Her self-respect demands that there shall be no repetition of the degrading scene to which her husband has subjected her. She must have his promise that he will never drink again, not even one glass of any intoxicant, or she will leave him. Robert questions her right to extort such a promise from him, and tells her that if she leaves him she will only return of her own accord. If he wants her, says the wife, he must send for her; and so, both stubborn in their determination, they part, Virginia to try existence on 7 dollars a week in the company of the Gilleys, Robert to fight his devils alone as best he may.

Three months later Virginia is a good deal out of love with poverty, but still cherishes the resolve that has brought her to it. James, reduced once more to the bare living wage of his ability unaided by influence, and Fanny are also pretty sick of their lapse from luxury. Together they concoct a little plan. James shall telephone to Robert that Virginia has sent for him, Virginia shall believe that Robert comes of his own accord. The plan succeeds admirably; and even when Robert learns from his sobbing wife that he is supposed to have made the first advances, he says nothing but pays for the vindication of her principle with his silence. It is from silly Fanny that Virginia learns the truth; but touched by Robert's sacrifice, and happy in his tardy promise, she lets principle go, and rushes into her husband's arms with a celerity that, as James puts it, "makes a bounding antelope look like a plumber's assistant."

It can be easily imagined that the big scene of the play could be converted in inexperienced hands into a revolting exhibition, and it is particularly in this instance that the exquisite polish and innate refinement of Mr. Allan Aynesworth's art serves him in good stead. As the drunken husband, Mr. Aynesworth is intensely, painfully realistic, but never disgusting or coarse. It is a remarkable performance, broad, vigorous and effective, and shows us a new and hitherto unsuspected side of Mr. Aynesworth's talent. Miss Alexandra Carlisle does some fine work as Virginia, and will be still better when she takes the part more quickly. Mr. Frank Craven establishes himself in the favour of the audience from the start; he is original and attractive, and can raise a laugh even when he sinks his voice so that the latter end of the sentences are lost. From the back of the house he must often have been almost unintelligible; yet he had only to open his mouth or to smile to produce roars of laughter. A Japanese gentleman, Mr Giro Kim, was a source of great delight, and played charmingly as a manservant. Miss Alice Crawford was not very well suited as Fanny Blaine, but did what she could with the part; Miss Sonia Bourcard acted a French maid daintily, and Mr. J. H. Stewart was an excellent waiter.

The piece was loudly applauded, and Mr. Broadhurst and Mr. Aynesworth were both called. In response to demands for a speech Mr. Broadhurst said that he preferred the play to speak for the playwright rather than the playwright for the play, and thanked the audience for their favourable verdict.

Owing to the success of "The Liars," Mr. Millar Anderson has arranged for Miss Mabel Manning to play this piece on at least three nights at each town visited. "Mrs. Dane's Defence" and "The Liars" will be preceded on the tour by a one-act play by a well-known author.

"THE HANDFUL."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by William Gordon Edwards, Produced at the Prince of Wales' Theatre on Saturday, March 8.

Sir Arthur Wetheral..Mr. W. Graham Browne
Richard Stern .....Mr. Charles V. France
Tom Wetheral .....Mr. Steff Macdonald
Lord Brandon .....Mr. John Astley
Landlord of Inn .....Mr. Horton Cooper
Butler .....Mr. George C. Browne
A Fisherman .....Mr. George Bellamy
Lady Wetheral .....Miss Marie Tempest
Joyce Wetheral .....Miss Margaret Bruhling
Maid .....Miss Evelyn Beaumont

By the production of "The Handful" at the Prince of Wales Theatre last Saturday night, Miss Marie Tempest has introduced us to a new playwright of considerable promise, though at present he is hampered, probably by youth, certainly by inexperience. Mr. William Gordon Edwards' promise is shown by the originality of his ideas and by frequent flashes of very pretty wit; his lack of experience is manifested by the vagueness of his characters and the weakness of his construction.

Tom and Joyce Wetheral, brother and sister, are, at the start, a typical example of modern, dissatisfied youth. Their chief cause for complaint is "the mater's goings-on," which they stigmatise as "pretty thick." These "goings-on" appear to consist in annexing all the young men who frequent the house and converting the son's friends into her own "tame cats, dogs, and performing bears." Over a game of billiards the two decide that a protest shall be made, and, on their mother's entrance they proceed to state their case. They inform her very plainly that she is too much of a "handful" for them, and that it is "about time that she retired gracefully into the background as middle-aged ladies should, and left the field to the younger generation."

Lady Wetheral listens attentively with wicked, twinkling eyes to her "chickabidees." True, she feels their ingratitude a little; for, as she reminds them, their father left her ten years before because she "devoted herself to her children to the neglect of her husband." And she also explains to her daughter that she is merely helping the young men to get rid of their wild oats—"a married woman with a pretty daughter is always the last out." The "chicks" remaining obdurate, the little lady gives in with startling suddenness, issues instructions to her maid to pack her seventeen trunks of clothes, hands over the care of the household to her rebellious children, and departs, in a whirl, to obscurity.

A fortnight later we find the pretty "grass widow" installed under an assumed name at a quaint old inn, the "White Hart," in a little Devonshire fishing village, intent on the subjugation of her only fellow-boarder, Richard Stern, a strong, silent, blunt, reserved misogynist, and an ardent disciple of Nature in her most uncompromising aspects. To please Richard, Lady Wetheral sheds her fashionable raiment and other "aids to beauty," and dons spectacles, a cap, a shawl, and even those "Biblical things," sandals; though she persists in retaining stockings, for, as she says, "she has her limits," and going about with bare legs is one of them. She is discovered in her retreat by her long-lost husband, who comes on a visit to his old friend Richard. The meeting is hardly a happy one, for it leads to the severance of the friendship between the two men, Stern's sympathies now being entirely with the lady. Left together, husband and wife indulge in mutual recrimination. She tells him that she only wanted "love and devotion"; he retorts that the affection of one man never proved sufficient for her—she "took out a subscription ticket." To which she answers that she cannot be blamed if she suffers from a "dilated heart." The situation reaches its climax with the arrival of Tom and Joyce, who have run down unexpectedly to "look the mater up." With them comes the storm that clears the atmosphere. In Joyce (an entirely different girl to the artificial product we saw in London) Richard Stern finds his ideal woman, who shares his devotion to fresh air, cold water, physical exercises, and Ruskin. Fascinating forty has to take a back seat, and leave the stage to triumphant twenty. After one ineffectual fight, which even the art of Miss Marie Tempest cannot make effective, the mother retires gracefully from the encounter, and turns to her reserve force—"always have something in reserve in life, either a husband or first-class references"—gives Nature the "go-by," kicks away the sandals, tears off the cap, and, arrayed in a glorious gown, captivates her husband anew, and prepares gaily to start all over again.

As a peg on which to hang the fascinating personality of Miss Marie Tempest, the character of Lady Wetheral answers very well, in that it gives her an opportunity of bewitching us from start to finish; but as a medium for the display of any other aspect of her original and undivided art it is disappointing. She fascinates, she cajoles, she twinkles humour, she radiates the joy of living; but, to use a colloquialism, she can do all these things "with her eyes shut." The character of Lady Wetheral is only shown on the surface; she is essentially a pretender, playing at life, intent on making it amusing, never probing its depths. Mr. W. Graham Browne as Sir Arthur Wetheral, K.C., contents himself with impersonating a vaguely sketched elderly man, selfish and dictatorial, whose views appear to be curiously one-sided. Mr. C. V. France plays the "strong, silent, blunt, reserved misogynist with so much cleverness that he makes him almost convincing. He manages, at any rate, to give an impression of a man of simple tastes and feelings, and this impression remains throughout. The one thoroughly consistent well-drawn character in the play is that of Tom Wetheral, the son, played very well indeed by Mr. Steff Macdonald, who gets the effect of the well-meaning but bored and vapid youth very cleverly. Miss Margaret Bruhling is also markedly successful as Joyce. Miss Bruhling is still very young, but her style, particularly where movement and expression are concerned, shows experience and ability. Mr. Horton Cooper plays very pleasantly as a Devonshire landlord; Mr. John Astley is amusing as an enamoured "tame cat"; Mr. George Bellamy is vigorous as a ruddy fisherman; Mr. George Browne is a model butler; and Miss Evelyn Beaumont makes an attractive maid. The play was received kindly, though not enthusiastically, and Miss Tempest and the author were both called.

After having been at the Royal Theatre, Plymouth, for some twelve years as advertising manager, Mr. A. E. Petherick is leaving for a similar position at the Grand, with Mr. Langdon Lee. Mr. Petherick has been presented by the staff and friends with a handsome gold watch as a mark of appreciation for past associations.

An exciting incident happened in a Glasgow theatre on Saturday. A young Colonial from Vancouver was so excited that he threw a chair from one of the boxes on to the stage. In two seconds he was out in the corridor, in the grip of the attendants, when the management offered him the alternative of contributing to the charity box or being charged before the police. He chose the former, and the local infirmaries will benefit to the extent of two guineas by his misdirected enthusiasm.

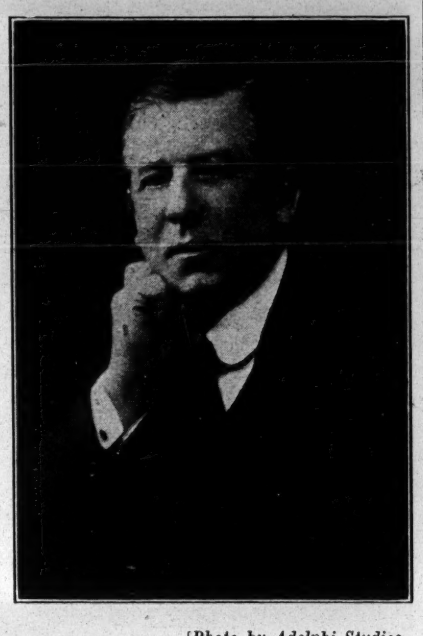
MR. J. RICE CASSIDY.

AT THE APOLLO THEATRE.

Ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte! A well-known axiom, and its significance is generally accepted as an established fact. Hence, when the event occurs that an actor's "first step" into particular prominence should *not* have proved difficult, but secures for him an immediate success, then the achievement must be accounted especially noteworthy.

These are the singular circumstances which are attached to the appearance of Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, actor, comedian, vocalist, and dancer, who, in consequence of the unfortunate illness of Mr. Leonard Boyne, most successfully essayed, and upon very brief intimation, this famous actor's part at the Apollo Theatre, in the popular play, "General John Regan."

During the course of a chat, which an "Era"



[Photo by Adelphi Studios.

MR. J. RICE CASSIDY.

representative enjoyed with Mr. Rice Cassidy at a well-known Club one afternoon this week, the genial actor observed:—

"Though my name is particularly Irish, may I remark, and with all due respect to that charming island, my name is derived from Cassio, a Venetian root. Indeed, some five generations ago, my forebears belonged entirely to this beautiful Southern country. By extraction, however, I may claim to belong to Ireland, as my grandfathers and grandmothers, on both sides, were born there. I had reached the age of twenty-three years ere I first trod upon Irish soil.

"I have every reason to remember the occasion," continued the actor, with twinkling eyes. "It was in the year 1888, at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, in Mr. O'Grady's drama, 'The Eviction.' As you may remember, at the precise period when this play was produced, Ireland was in a state of turmoil in consequence of the evictions and agrarian outrages. Though the play, therefore, proved both an artistic and box-office success, 'wigs on the green' were plentiful, and—certain difficulties and excitements arose."

"Having lately visited Ireland myself, I can quite readily understand the position."

"Then you will doubtless entirely appreciate what I will relate. The populace were very excited by this play, and, as a result, we were compelled to smuggle the unfortunate actor who played the hard-hearted landlord out of the theatre each night, in a different disguise, and always vary the exits, too: for feeling ran so high that it was learned that the poor man ran the risk of being cudgelled and otherwise roughly handled, had his identity been discovered. Well, that's some years ago. So shall we hark back to more recent times—eh?

"During one period of my varied and interesting histrionic career, I was juvenile leading man with Barry Sullivan for a ten-month season, and later was associated with the American tragedian, D. H. Harkins, playing, in both instances, throughout the principal English towns. Now, though Irish parts will always remain congenial studies to me, still, I consider (and may I say you gentlemen of the Press have—as you will observe from these notices which appeared in all the leading London and Provincial Journals—been good enough to emphasise the fact) that some of my best work lies in the representation of Scotch, Welsh, and, of course, English character studies."

"And with regard to your successful interpretation of the part of Timothy Doyle in the Apollo play?"

"Well, sir, having regard to the numerous flattering Notices and letters of congratulation I have received, I hope you won't deem me immodest when I relate that I only had the benefit of one rehearsal before I took up Mr. Leonard Boyne's fine part, and never even experienced the pleasure of seeing him play it. It is but human that I should be highly pleased with the success I am informed I have made in this part; and my trying ordeal has been rendered vastly agreeable, may I state, by the great kindness and help afforded me, not only by Mr. Charles Hawtrey personally, but by every member of his Company and the Theatre Staff."

FAMOUS SOUTHWARK WARDENS.

In "The Corporation of Wardens of the Parish of St. Saviour's, Southwark," compiled by R. T. Baines and L. M. Lamgston, and published by Winkly and Son, Southwark-street, a brief account is given of the famous actor, Edward Alleyn, the founder of Dulwich College, who was elected a vestryman of the parish on March 20, 1607, and a churchwarden two years later. Alleyn became the proprietor of a playhouse in Moorfields and a Keeper of the Royal Bear Garden. Aubrey relates a ridiculous story of the devil appearing to Alleyn when personating the character of Satan, and so frightening him that he grew nervous and quitted the stage.

A stained glass window in the fine old church of St. Saviour's is dedicated to Alleyn's memory. In the lowest panel is a figure of Charity holding a banner in her left hand. In the middle panel Alleyn is seen reading the charter and constitution of his foundation in the presence of Lord Chancellor Bacon, Lord Arundel, Inigo Jones and others. His portrait occupies the head of the window. Reference is also made to another Southwark window of some theatrical note—Philip Henslowe, Alleyn's father-in-law, and partner with him in the Rose Theatre and the Bear Garden, Bankside.

The book, which is illustrated, was compiled at the request of Mr. John Wylde, Warden of the Great Account.

At a meeting, held on Friday last, of the Managers' Club, Mr. Gerald Valentine was duly elected a member.

THE PIONEER PLAYERS' "HAMLET."

On Sunday, March 9, at the King's Hall, Covent Garden,

"HAMLET."

Francisco ..... Mr. Kenneth Kent
Bernardo ..... Mr. Eric Snowdon
Horatio ..... Mr. Halliwell Hobbes
Marcellus ..... Mr. Howard Sturge
Ghost of Hamlet's Father ..... Mr. Courtenay Thorpe
Claudius ..... Mr. Charles Vane
Gertrude ..... Miss Saba Raleigh
Hamlet ..... Mr. Louis Calvert
Polonius ..... Mr. Fisher White
Laertes ..... Mr. James Berry
Voltimand ..... Mr. Charles Kenyon
Cornelius ..... Mr. Alan Stevenson
Ophelia ..... Miss Ellen O'Malley
Reynaldo ..... Mr. Lancelot Lowder
Rosencrantz ..... Mr. Edmund Breon
Guildenstern ..... Mr. Hubert Willis
First Player ..... Mr. Clarence Derwent
Second Player ..... Mr. A. B. Tapping
Third Player ..... Mr. Gordan Gay
Fortinbras ..... Mr. Henderson Bland
A Captain ..... Mr. Lancelot Lowder
A Gentleman ..... Mr. Alan Stevenson
A Sailor ..... Mr. Hereward Knight
A Lord ..... Mr. Lionel Carlton
First Clown ..... Mr. Edmund Gwenn
Second Clown ..... Mr. Leon M. Lion
A Priest ..... Mr. A. B. Tapping
Osric ..... Mr. Ernest Thesiger
English Ambassador .... Mr. Eric Snowdon

The indulgence of the audience was asked, on Sunday evening last, when the Pioneer Players presented "Hamlet" at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, for Mr. Louis Calvert, who was in the doctor's hands. But it seemed to us more necessary to ask the indulgence of the half of the audience who were not suffering from bronchial trouble for the half who were, and whose incessant coughing, in the early part of the evening especially, marred considerably the enjoyment of Shakespeare's sublime tragedy. As regards Mr. Calvert, in spite of his indisposition, his performance was a very impressive and interesting one. We may not agree with his reading, for Mr. Calvert holds the opinion that Hamlet's mind became unhinged after his interview with the ghost, and remained so until nearly the end of the tragedy; but that it was a very acute and ingenious impersonation there can be no doubt. The staring, blubbering, and brow-beating business certainly does not accord with the vigorous intellect exhibited by Hamlet, unless he is mad "only in craft," and the beautiful soliloquies and the speech to the players are all utterances of a perfectly sane—if distraught—man. Mr. Calvert's impersonation was throughout never commonplace, but a very imaginative and forceful one. In the scene with his mother the tones assumed were more those of expostulation than of entreaty, but his delivery of the "Oh! what a rogue; a peasant slave am I," was very impressive and natural. Impulsive, fiery, and full of tormenting doubts, Hamlet, despite his strange behaviour, was surely never really mad, but Mr. Calvert is to be complimented on an original and cleverly conceived—if unconvincing—reading.

The support was, on the whole, excellent, but it was unfortunate that the services of prompter should have been so often necessary. Mr. James Berry's Laertes was a very fine performance, fiery, vigorous, yet never blustering; and the quieter passages, and the scene wherein he is made aware of Ophelia's madness, were admirably handled. Mr. Fisher White gave a clever and quaintly humorous portrayal of Polonius; Mr. Charles Vane submitted a sound performance as the King, his delivery of the lines being well-balanced and unforced; Mr. Halliwell Hobbes was a handsome and earnest Horatio; and Mr. Edmund Breon and Mr. Hubert Willis did excellently as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. Mr. Courtenay Thorpe was sufficiently weird and solemn as the Ghost; Mr. Clarence Derwent, capitally made up, spoke the lines of the First Player expressively; and Mr. Henderson Bland did admirably as Fortinbras. Those who were enabled to stay till the churchyard scene—for the performance was much too long, and many had to leave ere the third act had started—keenly enjoyed the dry humour of the First Gravedigger, finely played by Mr. Edmund Gwenn; Mr. Leon M. Lion also doing good work as the Second Clown, and the other male parts were all carefully and, generally speaking, capably enacted.

Miss Ellen O'Malley's Ophelia was a very charming and quietly effective one. The mad scene was beautifully acted, the representation of insanity being most impressive and the portrayal throughout a very pathetic and natural one. The snatches of song were intoned with rare tunefulness, and Miss O'Malley is to be heartily complimented upon a most artistic impersonation. Mrs. Saba Raleigh was a handsome and dignified Queen, and skilfully depicted the anguish of the mother in the closet scene. Curtains and tapestry mostly took the place of scenery proper, and were quite sufficient, Miss Edith Craig being responsible for the decorations and costumes.

[Photo by Hana.

MISS MARGARET SWALLOW.

This charming and talented young actress and vocalist, from the Shaftesbury Theatre, is now achieving considerable success on tour in the part of Sombra in Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, "The Arcadians." The tour commenced at Aberdeen at the commencement of the month, and during the past week Miss Swallow has been capturing hearts at Dundee by the aid of her sweet voice and delightful acting.

MISS ERNITA LASCELLES.

The occasions which create opportunities for rising young actors and actresses to display their latent abilities, and thereby achieve more prominent and deserved recognition, are many and varied. In the case of Miss Ernita Lascelles, her "chance" arose through the exigencies of another Production, which afforded her the opportunity to take up Miss Ethel Irving's fine part in "The Son and Heir" at the Strand Theatre: and though the fact that the play is now being withdrawn made the occasion of her meeting with the "Era" representative perhaps a little less joyous than it might otherwise have been, still, Miss Lascelles is to be most sincerely congratulated upon the immediate success which her talents have gained her in assuming the reins relinquished by Miss Irving.

Miss Ernita Lascelles possesses a most charming,

[Photo by S. Langfier.

MISS ERNITA LASCELLES.

attractive, and winsome personality, to which the success of her acting in the part is in no small measure to be attributed: for, it may be said, the part is one that might well tax the histrionic resources of a lady of wider experience, if she had not temperament. Miss Lascelles, it may be said, does not possess one of those natures which love to be unduly exposed to the sunlight of publicity; and consequently it may for the moment suffice if the young actress is referred to as a charming flower, which, though budding and blushing, as yet but partly revealed, distributes the fragrance of its petals no less delightfully than the gorgeous, light-loving sunflower.

Just a few words Miss Lascelles vouchsafed to her visitor in a peaceful Palm-court (the period was mid-way between luncheon and tea-time) at a certain West-end hotel:—

"You imagine you are talking to a very happy and proud Miss Lascelles. Well, the adjectives are not altogether applicable, for don't you think it is just a little tragic for me, a young actress, to be called upon to play the principal part, and to succeed such a fine actress as Miss Ethel Irving in a play, knowing full well that the 'Notices' of withdrawal have been put up for a week before her advent! I am, of course, grateful for, and much flattered by, the Press notices I have received, and I hope, and believe, the part has created for me just a little niche in the hearts of the public. The rôle of Beatrice Wishaw is altogether charming, and I am very fond of the delightful love scene. I was not able to get any help by watching the play from the front, for I find if I watch anyone else playing a part I only get horribly uncertain of my own ideas without being able to assimilate other people's. In the end, I played the part with only one rehearsal with the whole Company, and an extra rehearsal with my lover and my father."

"An excellent and praiseworthy achievement, pray, permit me to say, having regard to the rich measure of success you attained."

"How sweet of you to say that. Really, I believe I may say—may I, please?—I have been a lucky girl so far; for I have played leading parts with Sir George Alexander, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. Granville Barker, and last, but not least, dear Mr. William Poel."

"What one might term a convincing coterie, eh? Nothing succeeds like success, you know, and—so may I wish you a continuance of all possible good luck?"

"THE DAIRYMAIDS" AT THE EALING HIPPODROME.

After the somewhat thrilling "Grand Guignol" bill of last week, Mr. Robert Macdonald's presentation of the successful farcical musical play, "The Dairymaids," was quite a pleasing contrast, and although the play has been somewhat condensed, it was evidently very much to the liking of the crowded house that witnessed the performance on Monday last, the players receiving abundant appreciation for their good work. Miss Empsie Bowman made an attractive Peggy, her dainty manner and graceful dancing being well received, and she got right home in her rag-time duet with Sam, entitled "Cinema Rag," which was introduced into the piece. Miss Kathleen Severn, as Winifred, was none the less successful. A young lady with charming features and a fine soprano voice, she soon captivated all hearts, and was a great success. Miss Carrie Lucy impersonated Lady Brudenell with rare haughtiness, and sustained the part admirably; whilst Miss A. Graham, as the dignified and bumptious principal of the "Pyechase Academy for Girls," created a favourable impression. Miss Edie Martin was screamingly funny as the maid-of-all-work, Eliza. Mr. E. Dodds, as Joe Mivens, kept the audience laughing heartily. He received tumultuous applause for his musical numbers, especially his duet with Eliza, "I'd like to meet your father," the audience clamouring loudly for an encore. Mr. Mark Daly, as Sam Brudenell, and Mr. Freddie Bentley, as Frank Meredith, were excellent, and their humorous business in the girls' school, in female attire, created much fun, the former receiving a warm reception for his "When I was a girl at school." Mr. Edward Lewis made the most of his opportunities as Dr. O'Bryne, the business in the girls' school with his two "daughters" being exceedingly well played. The smaller parts were adequately filled, and the work of the chorus was particularly pleasing, the vocalisation being especially good. The orchestra, under the bâton of the genial conductor, Mr. Clement Lockner, contributed its quota to the general success.

Seebold and Melrose's "Aladdin" company concluded a most successful twelve weeks' tour at the Worthing Theatre Royal on Saturday last. The principal boy and girl (Miss Lalla Melrose and Miss Rita Moya) received the usual compliments of bouquets, chocolates, and other souvenirs of the festive occasion.

STAGE SOCIETY MATINEE.

On Monday, March 10, at the Aldwych Theatre, for the first time, a Comedy, in One Act, by Arthur Schnitzler, Translated by H. A. Hertz, and entitled

"COMTESSE MIZZI."

Servant ..... Mr. Val Cuthbert
Count Arpad Pazmandy ..Mr. Robert Horton
Mizzi ..... Miss Katherine Pole
Gardener ..... Mr. Charles Bishop
Egon, Prince Ravenstein ..Mr. Athol Stewart
Philip .....Mr. Godffrey Dennis
Lolo Langhuber ..... Miss Margaret Bussé
Wasner ..... Mr. Rupert Lumley
Professor Windhofer ..... Mr. Ivo Dawson

Granted the non-existence of certain moral laws in the relations of the sexes, Arthur Schnitzler's one act play, "Comtesse Mizzi," produced by the Incorporated Stage Society, at the Aldwych Theatre, resolves itself into a comedy of modern life. The piece, which plays for three-quarters of an hour, takes place in the garden of the villa of Count Arpad Pazmandy. The Count's eighteen years of "domestic" happiness since the death of his wife with his mistress, Lolo Langhuber, is about to be ended by the latter's determination to "range" herself by marriage with a wealthy cab-proprietor, Wasner, with whom she is genuinely in love. The Count has a friend, Egon, Prince Ravenstein, and a charming daughter of thirty-seven, Mizzi, whose society is now his consolation in his "widowhood." In the absorption of his early passion for Lolo, the Count was oblivious of the love that existed between the youthful Mizzi and the already-married Prince Egon, and he does not know that the boy of seventeen, whom the Prince has lately openly adopted as his son, is the child of the pair. But since the Prince, in consideration for his wife at the time, would not openly take up the burden of parenthood with Mizzi, she has resolutely refused to see or know anything of her son; and when Philip is introduced to her by Egon, she at first steels her heart against his boyish charm. The Prince has several times since the death of his wife renewed his offer of marriage to Mizzi; and, though neither of them has been inconsolable in the interval, she has hitherto refused to give up her liberty.

Lolo comes to pay a farewell visit to the Count, and the two women meet and fraternise. Mizzi is inclined to gently chide Lolo for the desertion of her father, but both women agree that he will probably "console himself" again soon. Philip has not been told the truth about his mother; and, thinking that she may have been perhaps Lolo herself, in the presence of both his parents he refers lightly to the "plebeian strain" in his blood; but, won by the charm of the youth, Mizzi allows herself to thaw, and there are indications that the visit of the four to Ostend will end in her marriage with the Prince, his father.

The "comedy" was played in easy style by the members of the cast. Mr. Godffrey Dennis indicated excellently the fresh, unconscious egoism of the boy, Philip; and Mr. Robert Horton played effectively as the well-preserved Count Arpad Pazmandy. Mr. Athol Stewart was cleverly polished and pertinent as Prince Egon, who, under other conditions, would have been the "villain of the piece." Miss Katherine Pole gave as much reality as was possible to the part of the Comtesse Mizzi; and Miss Margaret Bussé was quite "in the picture" as the good-hearted Lolo Langhuber. Mr. Rupert Lumley supplied a clever thumb-nail sketch of the cab-proprietor, Wasner; and Messrs. Val Cuthbert, Charles Bishop, and Ivo Dawson did all that was required in the parts of a servant, a gardener, and the professor, Windhofer. The play, which has been well translated by Mr. H. A. Hertz, was also produced by Mr. Clifford Brooke. It was followed by a grotesque, in one act, by Arthur Schnitzler, translated by Penelope Wheeler, played for the first time, and called

"THE GREEN COCKATOO."

Grasset ..... Mr. Claude Rains
Lebrêt ..... Mr. Leonard E. Notcutt
Prosper ..... Mr. Luke Forster
Inspector of Police ..... Mr. Allan Jeayes
Grain .....Mr. Norman Page
Scaevola .....Mr. Benedict Butler
Jules .....Mr. Herbert Alexander
Henri .....Mr. Leon Quartermaine
Léocadie .....Miss Caroline Bayley
François, Vicomte de Nogeant ..... Mr. Ralph Hutton
Albin, Chevalier de la Trémouille ..... Mr. P. Perceval Clark
Michette .....Miss Norah Beresford
Flipotte .....Miss Hilda Davies
Emile, Duc de Cadignan ..Mr. H. B. Waring
Guillaume .....Mr. Ewan Brooke
The Marquis de Lansac..Mr. G. Dickson-Kenwin
Séverine .....Miss Violet Farebrother
Rollin .....Mr. Terence O'Brien
Georgette .....Miss Joan Bennett
Balthazar .....Mr. Bernard Crosby
Stephen .....Mr. Eric Lugg
Maurice .....Mr. Charles Staite

This piece is a thrilling and realistic sketch of French life in 1739. "The Green Cockatoo" is the name of an underground tavern in Paris kept by the ex-theatre manager, Prosper, who has provided, as an attraction for his aristocratic patrons, a series of "Grand Guignol" thrills, which are devised and carried out nightly by the members of his former company under various disguises. Henri, the best actor of the company, who has just married Léocadie, a player at the Comédie, and intends to take her on the next day away with him into the country, announces that he has thought out a superlatively thrilling scene; but when he appears, and with tragic force relates how he has surprised the Duc de Cadignan in the dressing-room of his wife at the theatre and has killed him, so realistic is his acting that some of the company, who have been aware of the flirtations of Léocadie, sympathise with him and applaud the justice of his action. But the reality of his imagined scene is the last thing that Henri has thought possible, and when he discovers that Léocadie has really been unfaithful, and when the Duc de Cadignan enters gaily, he is stabbed to the heart by the enraged husband. The mob, elated by the capture of the Bastille, pour into the tavern, the aristocrats being allowed for the moment to make their escape.

The piece had been well translated by Miss Penelope Wheeler, and was well produced by Mr. Norman Page, who enacted the ruffian, Grain. Mr. Leon Quartermaine was powerfully sincere in the part of the actor, Henri, and the horror of Léocadie at the murder of the Duc was realistically depicted by Miss Caroline Bayley. Mr. Luke Forster was drily humorous as the innkeeper and ex-theatre manager, Prosper, and the burlesque heroics of the actor-Apaches were cleverly differentiated by Messrs. Benedict Butler, Herbert Alexander, Bernard Crosby, Eric Lugg, Charles Staite, and Miss Joan Bennett. Mr. Claude Rains, who stage-managed, ably sustained the part of the plebeian philosopher, Grasset, and Mr. Leonard E. Notcutt was good as the drunken tailor, Lebrêt. The aristocrats were well represented by Mr. Ralph Hutton as the Vicomte de Nogeant, Mr. Perceval Clark as the youthful Chevalier de la Trémouille, and Mr. G. Dickson-Kenwin as the imperious old Marquis de Lansac. Miss Violet Farebrother was dainty and dignified as the Marquis' wife, Séverine. Mr. H. B. Waring was an excellent Duc de Cadignan; Mr. Allan Jeayes played neatly the part of the Inspector of Police; and Miss Norah Beresford and Miss Hilda Davies acted with life and spirit as the two pretty types of the people, Michette and Flipotte.

ON THE ROAD, MARCH 17.

Allah's Orchard.—T.R., Stockport.
Amazons, The.—Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
Arcadians, The.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Olympia, Coalville.
Bella Donna.—H.M.T., Dundee.
Benson, Mr. F. R.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—Liverpool.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—O.H., Coventry.
Cattle Thief.—King's T., Greenock.
Charley's Aunt.—Coronet Theatre, W
Chocolate Soldier (W.).—Llanelly.
Claudian.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
Clever Imposter, A.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Collier's Lass, The (N.).—T.R., Dewsbury.
Colombo Girl, The.—Tidworth.
Diana of Dobson's.—Grand T., Hull.
Dickie Clare. Hippodrome, Sheerness.
Drake.—Borough T., Stratford, E.
Dust of Egypt.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
East Lynne (Pitt-Hardacre).—Grand T., Derby.
Everywoman.—Grand T., Swansea.
Face at the Window.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Fatal Wedding.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
Find the Woman.—T.R., Worthing.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—T.R., Darlington.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Gipsy Love.—O.H., Southport.
Girl in the Picture.—O.H., Cheltenham.
Girl of My Heart.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Girl's Good Luck.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
Great White Chief, The.—T.R., Rotherham.
Hill-Mitchelson.—T.R., Birkenhead.
Hindle Wakes.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Hindle Wakes.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Hindle Wakes.—T.R., Bradford.
I Defy the World.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Indian Scout, The.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Kismet (Dance) (N.).—Edinburgh.
Kit Carson.—T.R., Stratford, E.
Leah Kleschna.—Pavilion, Liverpool.
Lifeguardsman, The (S.).—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Lodge-Percy Rept.—King s T., Longsight.
Man and Superman.—O.H., Northampton.
Man to Man.—T.R., Leicester.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—T.R., Castleford.
Midnight Wedding.—New T., Aberdare.
Milestones (Blue).—King's T., Sunderland.
Milestones (Red).—P.O.W., Birmingham.
Milestones (White).—T.R., Bolton .
Mill Girl to Millionairess.—T.R., Darlington.
Mormon and His Wives.—Queen's T., Poplar, E.
Mormon and the Maid.—Hippo., St. Helens.
Mother's Love, A.—Hippodrome, Preston.
Nick Carter.—Grand T., Mansfield.
No Mother to Guide Her.—T.R., South Shields.
Only a Mill Girl.—T.R., Hyde.
Pink Lady, The.—T.R., Glasgow.
Prairie Outlaw (S.).—T.R., Wolverhampton.
Pride of the Prairie.—T.R., North Shields.
Princess Caprice.—O.H., Blackpool.
Proud Maisie.—King's T., Glasgow.
Queen for a Wife, A.—Metropole T., Bootle.
Queen Mother, The.—T.R., Leeds.
Queen of the Redskins (S.).—T.R., Swansea.
Ready Money (Fenton).—O.H., Burton-on-Trent.
Red Riding Hood (De Lacy and Tymes).—
Round-Up, The.—T.R., Castleford.
Royal Divorce, A.—New T., Cardiff.
Royde Rept. Co.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Sign of the Cross.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Silver King.—T.R., Hanley.
Slave Girl, The.—O.H., St. Helens.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
Still Alarm.—Royalty T., Chester.
Sunshine Girl (Edwardes).—Grand T., Leeds.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—O.H., Middlesbrough.
Temptress of Paris.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
Thief, The.—County T., Bangor.
Turning Point, The.—T.R., Portsmouth.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Wimbledon Theatre, S.W.
Ways and Means.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
What Happened to Jones.—T.R., Chorley.
What Women Will Do For Love.—Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
White Girl Slave, The.—Hippo., Birkenhead.
Wife for a Day, A.—Hippo., Wednesbury.
Witness for the Defence.—Court T., Warrington.
Younger Generation.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
10.30 Down Express.—Queen's T., Dublin.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by L. and N.W. route on Sunday next:—"Peter Pan," Liverpool to Dublin; "Gipsy Love," Birmingham to Blackpool; Percy Honri's "Bohemia," Wolverhampton to Morecambe; "Sunshine Girl," Liverpool to Leeds; "The Miracle," Glasgow to Liverpool; "The Whip," Coventry to Bury; "Count of Luxembourg," Preston to Barrow; "The Hope," Stockport to London; "Witness for Defence," Bangor to Warrington; "Slave Girl," Dublin to St. Helens; "Leah Kleschna," Wrexham to Liverpool; Miss Grace Warner's, Margate to Bacup; "Man and Superman," Hastings to Northampton; "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife," Sheerness to Hednesford; "Through Death Valley," Liverpool to Manchester; "Queen Mother," Manchester to Leeds; "Pride of Byzantia," Manchester to Keighley; "Power of Gold," St. Helens to Gateshead; "Country Girl," Wigan to Newcastle; "Somebody's Sweetheart," Salford to Leeds; "From Millgirl to Millionairess," Dewsbury to Darlington; "Wild Australia," Glasgow to Liverpool; "House That Jack Built," Leigh and Bedford to Rawtenstall; "Gay Lord Quex," Leamington to Liverpool; "Submarine F7," Coventry to Doncaster; "Blackguard of Regiment," Smethwick to Birkenhead; "Clever Impostor," Cradley to Blackburn; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Dudley to Coventry; "Arcadians," Birkenhead to Kilmarnock; "'Mid Pleasures and [illegible]" Birkenhead to Oldham; "Woman Withling [illegible] Soul," Earlestown to Burnley; Poole's "Loss and Titanic," Bolton to Glasgow; "Perkins in Paris," Blackburn to Glasgow; "Butterfly on Wheel," Halifax to Carlisle; "Hindle Wakes," Warrington to Leigh and Bedford; "With Edged Tools," Bootle to Tonypandy; "Midnight Wedding," Liverpool to Aberdare; "Girl in the Train," Widnes to Hereford; "What Happened to Jones," Merthyr to Chorley; "Millgirl and Miner," Newport to Huddersfield; J. W. Turner Opera, Castleford to Widnes; "Allah's Orchard," Stoke to Stockport; "Wife for a Day," Hednesford to Wednesbury; "Silver King," Liverpool to Hanley; "Rip Van Winkle," London to Northampton; "Bunty Pulls the Strings." London to Liverpool; Castellano Opera," Northampton to Leicester; "Collier's Lass," Macclesfield to Dewsbury; "Still Alarm," Crewe to Chester; "Merry Widow," Birmingham to Bangor; "Sins of Rich," Preston to Earlestown; "Fanny's First Play," Birmingham to London; "The Grotesques" Birmingham to London; "Her Madcap Majesty," Burnley to Coventry; "The Christian," St. Helens to Wolverhampton; "Monk and the Woman," York to Swansea.

THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—"Old Folks at Home," Spennymoor to Brighton; Kino's Juveniles, Prudhoe to Grimsby Docks; "Don't You Believe It," Sunderland to Hull; Carl Rosa Co., Newcastle to King's Cross and Preston; "Indian Scout," Fencehouses to Bradford; "Round Up," Shield Row to Castleford; "Princess Caprice," Newcastle to Blackpool; "Mother's Love," Crook to Preston; "Sleeping Beauty," Jarrow to Manchester; "Outcast of the Family," Newcastle to Sheffield; "Red Riding Hood," Usworth to Manchester; "For Mother's Sake," Dunfermline to Sheffield; Herbert Darnley's Co., Edinburgh to London; "Ways and Means," Edinburgh to Newcastle; Martin Harvey's Co., Sunderland to Perth; "Claudian," Sunderland to Carlisle; Benson's Co., Ayr to Oldham; "Babes in Wood," Workington to Shield Row; Chas. Austin's Co., South Shields to Newcastle; "No Mother to Guide Her," Bishop Auckland to South Shields; "Pride of the Prairie," Newcastle to Fencehouses; "Man Tempted Me," Seaham to Stockton; Frederica Co., Newcastle to South Bank; Rio Bros., Ashington to Thornley; "King's Romance," West Hartlepool to Newcastle; Leland Jones Co., Piercebridge to Sedgefield; Catlin's Pierrots, York to Bradford; "Monk and the Woman," York to Swansea; Karno's Co., York to Birmingham; "Ready Money," Hull to Liverpool; "White Girl Slave," Hull to Liverpool; Cleveland Troupe, Hull to Winsford; "Chocolate Soldier," Bradford to Middlesbrough; Irma Lorraine's Co., Chorley to Darlington; "Arms and Girl," Bradford to Hull; Craggs Co., Bradford to Hull; "King and Girl He Loved," Harwood to Hull; "Fatal Crown," Middlesbrough to King's Cross; "Milestones," Middlesbrough to Birmingham; "Frontier Queen," Thornaby to Barnsley; Colonial Boys, Stockton to Sunderland; "Kismet," Nottingham to Edinburgh; "Glad Eye," Darlington to Nelson; "Sorrows of Satan," Darlington to Belfast; "Temptress of Paris," Apperley to Fencehouses; "Country Girl," Wigan to Newcastle; "Millgirl to Millionairess," Dewsbury to Darlington; "Rag-time Revue," Liverpool to Stockton; "Power of Gold," St. Helens to Gateshead.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical companies en route Sunday, March 16:—Mr. George Edwardes' "Dancing Mistress" Co., Nottingham to Newcastle; "The Whip," Belfast to Nottingham; "Pink Lady," Leeds to Glasgow; "Milestones," Hanley to Sunderland; "Charley's Aunt," Leicester to London; "The River Girl," Sheffield to Southend; "Arms and the Girl," Bradford to Hull; "Instinct," Leicester to Eastbourne; "Hindle Wakes," Barrow to Bishop Auckland; "Dolly Dye," Coalville to Sheerness; "Find the Woman," Bedford to Worthing; "Lifeguardsman," Wellingborough to Liverpool; "Chocolate Soldier," Bradford to Middlesbrough; "Milestones," Middlesbrough to Birmingham; D'Oyley Carte's Repertoire Co., Manchester to Nottingham; "East Lynne," Leigh and Bedford to Derby; Ten Loonies, St. Pancras to Dewsbury; Fred Karno's Co., York to Birmingham; "Pride of Byzantia," Manchester to Keighley; "As Your Hair Grows Whiter," Portsmouth to Coalville; "Child of the Streets," Leicester to Birmingham; C. Bell's Co., Leicester to Southampton; "Shopwalker," Leicester to Birmingham; Maskelyne and Devant's Co., Stockport to London; "White Slaves of London," Dunfermline to Sheffield; Alexander Marsh's Co., Keighley to Castleton; "Temptress of Paris," Apperley to Fencehouses; "Nuck Carter," Gloucester to Mansfield; "Two Little Vagabonds," Rotherham to London; "Driven from Home," Sutton-in-Ashfield to Worcester; Herbert Darnley's Co., Nottingham to Bradford; Chung Ling Soo, Manchester to Exeter; The Craggs, Bradford to Hull; Prelle's Circus, Langley Mill to Blyth; The Dayton Family, Barnoldswick to London; "Queen of Thieves," St. Pancras to Sutton Junction; "Christian," Tonypandy to Kettering; "Alias Jimmy Valentine," South Tottenham to Sheffield; "When Other Lips," Rushden to Nottingham; Linga Sing, Dudley to Chesterfield; "Queen of the Redskins," Mansfield to Stockport; "Indian Wife," Fencehouses to Bradford; "Girl and Miner," Newport to Huddersfield, &c.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the London and South-Western Company's system:—"The Turning Point" company will travel from Waterloo to Portsmouth by the 10 a.m. train; "The Stepmother" company will also leave Waterloo by the 10 a.m. train en route to Portsmouth; "The Prairie Hope" company will travel by the 5 p.m. train from Waterloo en route to Aldershot; Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds" will leave Waterloo by the 12 noon train for Boscombe. Other companies travelling by the London and South-Western route will include:—"Ben Hur," Cardiff to Portsmouth; "Autumn Manœuvres," Bournemouth to Brighton; "Lovely Lucerne," Portsmouth to Manchester; "As Your Hair Grows Whiter," Portsmouth to Coalville; "At Break of Day," Waterloo to Bordon; "Bells" company, Leicester to Southampton; "The Glad Eye," Portsmouth to Waterloo; Messrs. Chataway and Hill's Rag-timers, Portsmouth to Sheffield; "Colombo Girl," Guildford to Tidworth; "As White as a Lily," Southampton to Waterloo; Ray's Football company, Southampton to Portsmouth; "Young Stars," Warrington to Reading; "Cinderella," Gillingham to Bulford; "Tony Claud," Boscombe to Birmingham; Fred Karno's company, Worcester to Southampton; Mr. Rousby's company, Waterloo to Devonport.

LONDON, BRIGHTON & SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements, Sunday next:—"Marked Money" Co., Brighton to Newcastle; Follies Co., New Cross to Portsmouth; "Hindle Wakes" Co., Crystal Palace to Bordesley; "Dust of Egypt" Co., Eastbourne to Hastings; Glossop-Harris Co., Eastbourne to Victoria; "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Brighton to Wimbledon; South-Coast Repertory Co., Bognor to New Cross; "Nicely, Thanks" Co., Brighton to Victoria; "Find the Woman" Co., Bedford to Worthing; "Instinct" Co., Leicester to Eastbourne.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, March 10, the Play, entitled "UNDER TWO FLAGS."

The stirring episodes and thrilling incidents of the above play are presented in a highly creditable manner, and resulted in prolonged cheers and applause from a well-filled house. Mr. Philip Darien delivered his lines emphatically, and looked and acted the manly character, Bertie Cecil Royellieu, in praiseworthy fashion. As Berklie Cecil Royellieu Mr. Bert C. Wynn deserves favourable mention. The part of Lord Royellieu received full justice at the hands of Mr. Frank Woodville. Mr. Ernest Hollway's depiction of Lord Rockingham was all that could be desired. Mr. Will Smith made the very utmost of his opportunities as Rake. As Colonel Chateauroy, the Black Hawk, Mr. Edwin Bennett proved an able exponent of the character. Mr. Brian [illegible]ly was efficient as Captain Claude de Chan[illegible]on, the part of Marshal of France being suitacted by Mr. Charles Barnard. The money-Erza Baroni, received adequate imperby Mr. Arthur Trail. Mr. J. Winslow [illegible]sful in the part of Ade-el-kau. Miss Godart rendered the Princess Venetia [illegible] artistic way, her delivery being excellent. Miss Violet Target was a suitable Countess Olga. Lady Beatrice Guinevere was capitally played by the gifted Miss Sybil Etherington. Another exhibition of her histrionic gifts was given by Miss Heba Barlow, who seemed to really "live the part of Cigarette," the soldier's friend; this lady well earned the cordial applause bestowed upon her efforts. The minor characters were played in a satisfactory manner by Messrs. Jules Watkins (Babazum), A. B. Eldon (Lammericlere), Sam Walker (Jean Borgeau), Arthur Willis (Pierre Martin), Frank Beavor, James Campbell, George Griffin, and Arthur Sandy (Arabs), and Miss Eva Jones (Lavinia). The scenery (by Leolyn Hart), dresses, uniforms, and wigs (by John Hyman) were appropriate and elaborate. The stage-manager (Mr. Charles A. East) also deserves eulogy for staging a really splendid production.

Variety preceded the play, and was contributed by Mr. Alf Chester, the popular comedian; Master Frank Wilson, a gifted young instrumentalist; and to Mr. Jack Barlow at the piano, who deputised for Mlle. Lavinia, whose sudden indisposition prevented her appearance with Raffin's flying trapeze monkeys. Manager Garnham was "well in front," looking after the comfort of his many patrons and friends.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER ZIGEUNERPRIMAS."

Operetta, in Three Acts, by G. Kálmán, Produced at Monti's Operetta Theatre, March 8.

Racz Pali	Herr Gross
Laczi	Herr Kutzner
Sari	Fräulein Alder
Pista	Fräulein Gryca
Ferko	Herr Degeler
Gjuri	Herr Zydrowitz
Juliska	Fräulein Schwarz
Gaston Graf Irini	Herr Hansen
Die Gräfin	Fräulein Rohde
Heribert VII.	Herr Verdeck
Mustari	Herr Gruder
Cadeau	Herr Walters
Joska	Herr Salomonovitch
Banda	Herr Torf
Pierre	Herr Eisenstadt

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, March 13.—The latest addition to our operettas is not at all unwelcome. The composer is a Hungarian, favourably known to Berlin audiences by his comic opera "Herbstmanöver," and "Der Zigeunerprimas" is a considerable advance upon the former work. Many of the melodies are very pleasing indeed, and the instrumentation is excellent. The music is pure Hungarian throughout, reminding one at times of Lehar without slavishly imitating that prince of operetta writers. As to the book, it is the work of MM. Wilhelm and Grunbaum, and is not so poor as many others, but, on the contrary, has a few "possible" scenes, while others are distinctly impossible. The action passes in Hungary. Racz Pali, head of the Gipsies, and one-time violin virtuoso, is resting upon his laurels of world-wide fame on his country estate. His favourite son, Laczi, has inherited the paternal mantle, and been sent by his father to a music school, whence he has emerged one of the greatest violinists of the day. Father and son, however, differ in so many things—it is the conflict of the old and the young spirit and opinion—that Laczi leaves home and goes to Paris, where he sets up for himself and becomes leader of a famous orchestra. As in an operetta it is necessary to bring all the leading persons together, the authors cause the elder Pali to be invited by his patron, the young Count Irini, to run over to Paris and give a concert at his palace. In the gay city father and son meet again, and once more are rivals. Pali, sen., is conquered in more ways than one; not only is his son pronounced the greater artist, but the pretty Juliska, who, out of gratitude had become betrothed to Racz, finally discovers her heart belongs to Laczi. The debonair gipsy-artist is magnanimous, and gives his blessing to the young couple in the end, and consoles himself by contemplating the love affairs of his daughter, Sari, and Count Irini. Thus all comes to a satisfactory termination without over-taxing the nerves of the hearers. The interpretation was very good all round, and the applause was loud and general.

The Lessing revived the best known comedy of the late Otto Erich Hartleben, "Die Erziehung zur Ehe," on Saturday with fairly good results. The acting being excellent, something like success was attained, but the piece, I fear, will not easily gain a footing again. Ganghofer's "village comedy"—a burlesque-farce in reality—"Tod und Leben," was also in the bill, and met with a very hearty reception. It has a plot that is not to everyone's taste, but the humour is undeniable, and the splendid acting made it successful. A widower has just returned from the funeral of his better half, and meets in the village inn another party who have been celebrating a christening. Gradually the two groups mingle, and the widower, who is young, comes to the conclusion that life is still worth living. Learning also that the recently-interred better half was not all she ought to have been, he consoles himself with the pretty maid of the inn. Ganghofer's piece, which is in one act, will certainly draw a good many large audiences during the next few weeks.

At last Prof. Max Reinhardt has selected the site of his great theatre, in which he can carry out all his "reform" ideas without let or hindrance. It is not Berlin, but Potsdam, that has been chosen for the undertaking. It will be close to the station, and as Potsdam is reached in thirty minutes by trains that run every half hour, there will be no difficulty as to neighbourhood. The building, which will be erected partly according to Herr Reinhardt's own design, is to seat from 4,000 to 5,000 persons.

Forty-six and not out, such is the record of "The Era" Annual, and it is one of which any journal may well be proud. Edited by Mr. Frank Desprez, who has been associated with "The Actor's Bible" for so many years, the present year's issue is full of good things, and matters of real import and interest not only to members of the theatrical profession themselves, but to all who are interested in plays and players. The Annual contains, among other things, a number of short stories by well-known players, among others Madame Sarah Bernhardt, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Ben Webster, and many more, and is an excellent shilling's worth.—"Pelican," Feb. 12, 1913.

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DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

At the first meeting of the L.C.C. on Thursday, Mr. Cyril Cobb was elected chairman in the place of Lord Cheylesmore. A committee was appointed to make out a list of members proposed to be nominated on each of the committees of the Council, and to be submitted at the next meeting.

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THE LATE FRANK CALVERT.

Our Bombay correspondent writes: "It is with much regret that I have to announce the death on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the European General Hospital, of Mr. Calvert, of Rose and Calvert, better known to the professional world at home as Captain Kettle and his charming mate. Mr. Calvert only arrived in Calcutta in November last, and was taken ill there about three weeks after his arrival. Finishing his engagement there, he came here under our management, at the Cinema de Luxe, and struggled hard to keep at his work, but was compelled to go into hospital on Jan. 19. Despite the best of care and attention, he passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 18. He was buried in Sewree Cemetery, a peaceful spot outside the city. The funeral was attended by several friends, who had been attracted to him during his short stay by his pleasant manner, and magnificent wreaths were sent by the widow, the Bros. Fergusson, Mr. Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Coy, &c. Mr. Courtney and Mrs. Courtney (Miss Maude Courtney) arrived in Bombay on the Sunday from Colombo, and at once called to see Mr. Calvert, and stayed with the widow to the last, and assisted by their presence in staying her grief to some extent, and also placed a lovely wreath in memory of a dear old friend.

"I have taken it on myself to see that as long as I am in the city his grave shall be cared for, as I have several old Masonic friends buried there whose graves I periodically visit for friends at home. I understand Mrs. Calvert will be leaving as soon as possible for home, but at present the shock is very great, and my wife has called on her, and finds her almost inconsolable. I should like you to personally thank, through your columns, Dr. Collie and Mrs. Collie and nurses of the hospital for their extreme care and kindness for Mrs. Calvert, also the Bros. Fergusson, Mr. Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Coy, &c., for wreaths."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

To the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co.
Savoy Theatre, Strand, W.C.
Dear Sirs,— Feb. 18, 1913.
I am glad to say we are very pleased with the Cleaning of "The Winter's Tale" Wardrobe. It has been done in a most satisfactory manner.
(Signed) OSWALD MARSHALL
(Stage Manager).

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OUR AMATEURS.

We should have liked, had it been possible, to have been present at the later of the four performances of "A Message From Mars," given by the Stock Exchange D. and O.S., at the Court Theatre this week, when the slight "fluffiness" and slowness of pace of the first night—minor blemishes on an excellent performance—would, we have not the slightest doubt, have disappeared. The Stock Exchange D. and O.S. have accustomed us to expect from them an almost professional standard of acting and singing, and this was maintained in the present production. Of the twenty-eight named characters, Mr. Frank Mead as the very human Horace Parker and the majestic and disquieting "messenger" from Mars (for which part Mr. Godwin St. J. Lobb was well cast) are most in evidence during the three acts, and in both cases played their parts very well. Mr. R. H. Shelton's Tramp was a good character study, consistently carried out, and Mr. T. P. Singer as the Policeman refrained from over-acting the part. Miss Clare Harris's easy and natural impersonation of Minnie Templar was aided by her pleasantly modulated voice, and Miss Florence Angle made Miss Parker a kindly, genial, yet spirited, woman. Other "society" parts of the hostess, Mrs. Clarence, and of her guests, were played without apparent effort by Mrs. E. T. Boxall and by Messrs. C. J. Waldron, Cyril P. Bathurst, E. Sanderson, J. W. Nicholls, and C. W. Hoblyn; and among the members of the "submerged tenth," little Miss Margaret Barnett as the younger Minnie, and Mr. A. G. Bacchus and Miss Marjorie Phillips as Jim and Polly, had the best chances of distinguishing themselves, though all were thoroughly in the picture and well made up. The mechanical effects were well done and the incidental music capitally played by the society's orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Harry T. Dunaway.

The sudden and serious illness of Mr. Rupert M. Heath, whose name is familiar as a producer for amateur societies, was not the only trouble of the Hampstead O.S. at their performances of "La Fille de Madame Angot," at the Cripplegate Theatre on Tuesday and Wednesday last. In addition to a change of theatre, indulgence was asked for Miss Rosamund Davis and Miss Doris Reed, who take the parts of Clairette and Amaranthe, on account of the after effects of influenza. In spite of these drawbacks good performances were given under the honorary musical direction of Miss Gertrude Tait, L.R.A.M. Though the dialogue of the opera bears signs of its age in a-pruning and word-twisting, which fell rather flat, the music is as tuneful and enjoyable as ever, and was done justice to by chorus and principals, several of whom appeared in opera for the first time on this occasion. Mr. Harry Wesley was inclined to hurry his words a little in the part of Pomponnet, but he used his good voice effectively. Miss Rosamund Davis sang sweetly as Clairette, but would do well to moderate her use of gesture. Mr. Leonard Lovesay was a handsome, disreputable Ange Pitou, and Miss Olive Burtt a dainty and fascinating Amaranthe. Mr. Hubert de Courcy was capitally made-up as the police officer, Louchard; and Mr. Charles Hawthorne's robust voice gave pleasure in the part of Larivaudiere, his duet with the poet being heartily encored. Miss Lucy Saul acted and sang excellently as Mlle. Lange, and her fine presence gave point to her part. Some pretty dances had been arranged by Miss Beatrice Garner.

The Stamford Hill A.D.S.—otherwise "The Shads"—gave Messrs. Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce's three-act farce, "Saturday to Monday," at the Cripplegate Theatre on March 10 before a large and very appreciative audience. Though a good deal of care had evidently been given to the details of the production, the piece, unfortunately, suffered somewhat from insufficient rehearsal on the part of some members of the company, one of the results being a slowness of pace incompatible with the spirit of bustling farce. Miss Ada M. Smith acted smoothly, and was always calm under the multifarious troubles of Mrs. Wendover. A good bit of characterisation, on "Private Secretary" lines, was the Rev. Lenmel Toop of Mr. W. Stanley Thomas, who, with Miss Dorothy Sharwood as a clearly defined and humorous Miss Augusta Toop, provided a good deal of the fun of the evening. Miss Jessie Berg was consistently quaint as her friend, Miss Skeet; Miss Ina Russell a bright Angela; Miss Mabel Day (with a not very good make-up) an impressive Lady Diana; and Miss Margaret Warwick a youthful and dainty waiting-maid, Thompson. Mr. Arthur B. Horner acted well as the practical-joking Lord Oliver Culvert, who found material to his hand in his mild secretary and cousin, Probyn Dyke, played by Mr. Augustus C. Palmer. Mr. Theo. Ager was responsible for the production, and the Highbury Ladies' Orchestra gave a good selection of music during the evening.

The Chiswick and West London Amateur Operatic Society are to be heartily congratulated on their performances of "Tom Jones" at the Chiswick Town Hall, which they played to full houses for three nights. Mr. Cyril D. Butler, in the title-rôle, was admirable in his interpretation of the dashing highwayman, his fine voice and powerful acting being very effective. Mr. Harold Bourne impersonated the choleric old Squire Wisten with rare gusto, to the great amusement of the audience. Mr. W. A. Steff, as Benjamin Partridge, the village barber, was particularly pleasing, his business concerning "Lizzie," the lost leech, being ludicrously funny. Mr. T. F. Wills, as Mr. Allworthy, the magistrate, played with great dignity; whilst Mr. L. Lewis, as Blifil, was very satisfactory. The acting of Miss Gertrude Kendall, as the squire's daughter, Sophia, was very stiff and lacking in emotional force, and altogether too matter-of-fact. She possesses a charming voice, however, and received well-deserved encores for her vocal numbers. Miss Violet Cooper made a very vivacious Honour, her easy and natural manner soon establishing her as a firm favourite, and she was rapturously encored for her two songs, "All the maids" and "All for a green ribbon." Miss Amy Page was quite at home as Lady Ballaston; and Mrs. F. Hemensley was very dainty as the hostess of the inn. One of the features of the performance was the splendid work of the chorus, and the dances arranged by Mme. Jessie Hogarth met with a very gratifying reception, the gavotte at the beginning of act three being exceedingly well arranged and executed. The opera was produced under the stage direction of Mr. T. Ireby Cape, who, with Mr. Eustace Pett, the musical director, deserve much praise for the part they contributed to the general success.

In the Provinces.

Old associations have endeared to most of us the strange collection of characters which neither probability nor any modern theory of heredity can satisfactorily account for in T. W. Robertson's comedy, "Caste," and, as presented by the Old Askean Club at St. Peter's Hall, Brockley, on March 8, they were as interesting and acceptable as ever. Mr. J. H. Forbes was always good as the disreputable Papa Eccles, but we fancy that whilst making him equally bibulous, he might have retained for him a few more vestiges of a former status which would partially account for the admiring faith of the refined Esther and Polly. Mrs. Ernest Harry was sweet and affecting as the gentle Esther, and played well in the trying scene of Act 2. In the clever hands of Miss Mina Taylor the irrepressible Polly usurped, as always, the premier place in the interest of the audience. Miss Taylor, whilst always piquant and charming, endowed Polly with a hearty naturalness which made her one of the most living and lovable characters of the piece, and, with Mr. W. Raper Bingham as an excellent Sam Gerridge, always held the stage. Miss Cecile Dale made the very stagey Marquizzy as interesting as was possible, and Mr. W. F. James as George d'Alroy and Mr. E. J. Bourne as Captain Hawtree were soldierly and effective. The production on a rather small stage reflects great credit on Mr. Arthur Phillips.

On Saturday last the old boys of the County High School, Ilford, held a very successful smoking concert at the Broad-street Station Restaurant, the programme, under the direction of Mr. Alan W. Stapley, being an especially good one. Both the lady artistes were very successful, Miss Doris Clayton, with her songs at the piano, "Dixie land," "Hitchy-koo," and "Beautiful doll," making a big hit, whilst Miss Ethel Scudamore's fine contralto voice was heard to great advantage in "Corisande and Mifanwy," both ladies receiving encores. Mr. Dudley Arthurs gave his usual good show at the piano, his items including "My word!" (an imitation of Sam Mayo) and "The glad eye." Mr. Percy Danvers contributed "What is a ——?" and "Phil the fluter's ball," and literally brought the house down with his "How are you?" Mr. Maitland Stapley gave an excellent rendering of the monologue, "The caretaker," and for an encore sang "It does go," whilst Mr. Alan W. Stapley completed the humorous part of the programme with a short country sketch, entitled "Mary Ann," following this up with "Trying a magistrate," in place of Mr. Willin, who was absent through illness. The two baritone singers on the programme, Mr. Percival North and Mr. Edwardes-Davies, were also successful. Mr. North contributed "The old superb" and "The sea road," but his "Little grey home in the west," given as an encore, was perhaps his best effort. Mr. Davies sung "A chip of the old block," which was also encored.

The Odéon Operatic Society, one of Glasgow's latest amateur organisations, is in possession of the Grand Theatre this week, where they are producing a new comic opera, entitled "A Petticoat Prince," by Charles Winthrop and Bernard Johnson, Mus.Bac., F.R.C.O. The scene of the opera is laid in Petronia, a small European State, and the time is the eighteenth century. The plot turns upon the confusion caused by a fire in the Royal Palace, when the King's twin sons are hurriedly rescued from the nursery, and the necklet by which the first-born is distinguished is lost. The Prime Minister, Perekoff, settles the succession to the throne by the simple expedient of tossing, but at the time the story of the opera commences he is confronted by a further difficulty. The only daughter of the reigning monarch has been brought up as a boy, and is serving as an officer in the army. Reasons of State demand an early marriage for the "petticoat prince," Feodor by name, and the Prime Minister is at his wit's end trying to delay the betrothal, and so postpone discovery of the deception. After the manner of comic opera, we are asked to believe that even the King himself is unaware that Feodor is really a girl. The fact that Annetta, the princess to whom it is proposed to marry Feodor, is already in love with Vladimir, and that Feodor herself is enamoured of an officer in the army named Ladislas, provide the solution of the difficulty, especially as the latter turns out to be the real heir to the throne.

The music of Mr. Bernard Johnston is bright and tuneful throughout, and several of the solo numbers and choruses reach a distinctly high level. The members of the Odéon Society give a very clever performance, and the slight traces of nervousness on the opening night were only natural under the circumstances. Miss Helena Hartley looked well in her Hussar uniform, and sang her various numbers in cultured style. Mr. Nicol A. Paton as Ladislas was at his best in the pretty love song in act II. Mr. Appleton Moore as Loris, King of Petronia, and Mr. George Mavor as Grand Duke Paul, his twin brother, acted their parts successfully, and with a certain assumption of the dignity befitting their royal birth. Mr. W. Ronald was extremely amusing as the scheming Prime Minister, whose plots begin to go wrong, and his acting was most natural. His topical song was heartily encored, and he successfully managed a very long speech the author has allotted to him in the second act. Miss Marie Sharp, as Perekoff's wife, looked very well in her white riding habit, and she played the part with all the necessary emphasis. Mr. James McClure as Vladimir, Mr. Hugh D. Fraser as the innkeeper, Miss Violet McRoberts as the innkeeper's daughter, and Miss Jenny Culver as Annetta, all gave clever and enjoyable performances. The chorus work was excellent, and the augmented orchestra under Mr. George Henry Martin gave full value to the music. Mr. Lindsay Harman produced and stage-managed the opera. A special solo dance was given in the second act by Miss Gwladys McRoberts.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VICTOR.—*We cannot tell you, but why not write direct to the lady who owned the pantomime.*

G. B.—*Your letter is not clear, but we assume that you are employed in the picture hall. We think the notice given is quite sufficient.*

ERNEST RICE.—*We have inquired of a veteran of the profession concerning the artiste you name. He has an excellent memory, and his experience goes back to 1867, but he only remembers a comic singer of the name. He was Edgar, not Harry. He does not think that Teddy Mosedale ever had a partner.*

ARNOLD PENLEY OWENS (New York).—*In our issue of Nov. 16, 1912, we gave a full list of the mourners at the funeral. You had better write to the executors of the late comedian, and address your letter to the Firs, Godalming, Surrey, England. We cannot help you in tracing the genealogy of the family.*

P. E. S.—(1) *Mr. Weedon Grossmith married Miss May Lever Palfrey, daughter of Dr. Palfrey. She adopted her maiden name when she went on the stage.* (2) *Mrs. Ponting in "The Thunderbolt"; Mrs. Worthley in "Mrs. Dot." Made her professional début as Fairy Peach Blossom in Drury Lane pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk" in 1889; Mme. Ribob in "A Million of Money."* (3) *Mr. William Poel's address is 6, Amersham-road, Putney, S.W.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DANDOE.—March 7, the wife of Arthur Dandoe, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

PARRY—LIVINGSTON.—On the 12th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, W., Harold Petley Parry, of Broadlands, Warlingham, Surrey, to Margaret Livingston (Madge Lyttleton), of The Rosary, Bray, Berkshire.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

LOWE—WALLIS.—On March 18, 1863, at St. Paul's Church, Aberdeen, William Lowe to Fanny Wallis, who will celebrate their golden wedding at 5, Gorsebank-road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

DEATHS.

BOLTON.—On March 10, at 144, Welholme-road, Grimsby, Mrs. Bolton, the mother of Mamie Morris. Deeply mourned by family.

COLONA.—On March 10, Edith, aged 54, widow of Edgar Chalmers-Colona, and dearly loved mother of Josephine and Edgar Colona.

DURLACHER ("Delacher").—On the 8th inst., at 15, Old Burlington-street, George A. Delacher, of the Green Room and Constitutional Clubs, in his 84th year, after a few hours' illness.

EDELSTEN.—Edwin Henry Atherton Edelsten. Died Feb. 28, 1913. Interred March 4, at Brompton Cemetery. Deeply regretted.

KORBAY.—March 9, at 3, Weymouth-street, suddenly, Ferencz Korbay, aged 66.

PUZZI.—March 12, at 6, Connaught-street, Hyde Park, Fanny Puzzi, fourth daughter of Giovanni and Giaciuta Puzzi, of Villa Puzzi, Monferrato, Piemonte. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary, Marylebone-road, at eleven o'clock on Monday, 17th, and afterwards at St. Thomas' Catholic Cemetery, Fulham. R.I.P.

SEELEY.—On March 11, 1913, Frank Seeley passed away at Brixton, London, from pneumonia. Sorrowfully mourned by his wife and little daughter.

SEELEY.—On March 11, 1913, Frank Seeley fell asleep, deeply mourned by his loving father and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Will Poluski. Thy will be done.

SEELEY.—On March 11, 1913, Frank Seeley fell asleep, deeply mourned and loved by his brothers-in-law, Will and Sam Poluski.

SEELEY.—On March 11, 1913, Frank Seeley passed away, tenderly mourned by his loving brother and sister-in-law, Gus and Lot McNaughton.

STEBBINGS.—March 6, Alderman Arthur Stebbings, J.P., at his residence, Cambridge House, Lowestoft, aged 78. Father of Edgar Stebbings, Manchester.

IN MEMORIAM.

ALEXANDRA.—In ever-loving memory of my dear wife, Ada Alexandra, who passed to higher life March 15, 1907. "Till the day breaks, and the shadows flee away."

BUDD.—To the dearly loved memory of Charles George Budd (Charles Langley), who passed away on March 17, 1911. Jessie Price Langley and Doris Budd.

HANNEFORD.—In loving memory of Edward and Fanny Hanneford, who both died on March 14, 1889. Never forgotten by their loving son, Ned Hanneford.

PATEMAN.—In ever loving memory of my darling daughter, "Robbie," who passed away March 17, 1910. "Heaven would have no rainbow had the eyes no tears." Robert Pateman.

SCARD.—In loving memory of Mary Ann Hannah Scard, who was laid to rest March 9, 1906. Never forgotten by her loving husband and children, also sisters and brothers.

VICTOR.—In loving memory of my dearest mother, Miss M. A. Victor, who passed away in her 76th year, March 13, 1907. Though lost to sight, to memory dear. Inserted by her daughter Emma, grand-daughter Marie, and her sister, Emma Aubert.

VICTOR.—In loving memory of my darling grandmother, Miss M. A. Victor, who passed away March 13, 1907. Never forgotten by Lillian, Maude, and Victor.

WALLETT.—In loving memory of my darling husband, Russell Wallett, who died March 9 1912. Never forgotten by his wife, Nellie.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—

Mrs. Kendal—Saturday, March 15.
Leslie Stuart—Saturday, March 15.
William Grimes—Saturday, March 15.
Monte Bayly—Saturday, March 15.
Harry Paulton—Sunday, March 16.
Edith Blande—Sunday, March 16.
Phyllis Broughton—Monday, March 17.
Nellie Wallace—Tuesday, March 18.
Mrs. Bennett—Thursday, March 20.
W. H. Clemart—Thursday, March 20.
Albert Chevalier—Friday, March 21.
Norman Partriege—Friday, March 21.

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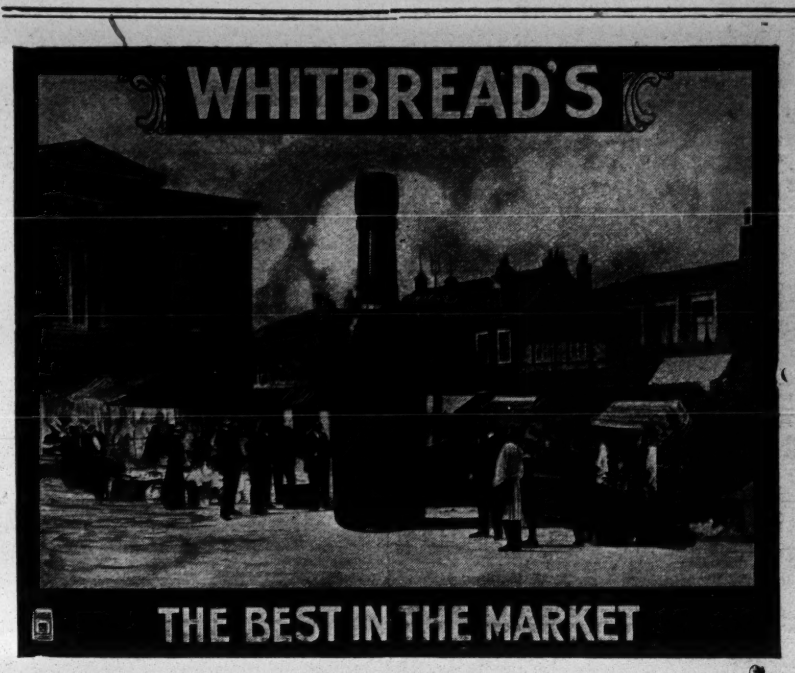
"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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"Drink and fear not."
—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

A COMBINE OF BRAINS.

Mr. A. R. Dean, of Birmingham, the great designer of fibrous plaster decoration and furnishings for theatres, and whose popularity with the proprietors was so well known and deserved, and who—amongst his many patrons who entrusted to his care large and important contracts—numbered the late Sir Augustus Harris, the late Mr. Andrew Melville, of Birmingham, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Walter Gibbons (late managing-director of the London Theatres of Varieties), Mr. George Dance, Mr. Walter de Frece, and all the most important architects in the theatrical, concert hall and picture palace world, being determined to retain his customers, arranged an interview with "the company" who were his greatest competitors. Mr. Wilkins, the managing-director of Fred Wilkins and Brother, Ltd., quick to recognise the advantages to be gained by having the vast experience of Mr. Dean at his disposal showed him over the works which, to repeat Mr. Dean's words, "Simply astounded him," used as he was to large enterprises.

The huge factory, running as on oiled wheels, and with the precision of a delicate watch, with upholsterers, carpet planners, joiners, electricians, fibrous plaster modellers, casters, decorators, scenic artists, each in their own departments controlled by a capable foreman, and the controlling department supervised by Mr. Wilkins and supported by a technical staff of experienced managers, designers, and officials, quickly convinced him that he would no longer be "against them," but "for them," and his old friends will be glad to hear that he is again in a position to execute all their requirements.

MRS. C. W. GARTHORNE.

We have been asked to recommend to the Masonic readers of our paper the sad case of Mrs. C. W. Garthorne, who has been nominated for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at the forthcoming election in May.

Mrs. Garthorne, the widow of Charles W. Garthorne, an actor well known for his geniality and kindness to others, was for years associated with the well-known plays, "Impulse," "The Colonel," "The Queen's Shilling," "Bootles' Baby," &c., has fallen upon hard times, so much so that, without the assistance of her friends and the friends of her late husband, would long ago have had to seek shelter of the workhouse. We therefore ask our readers to kindly help this case in every way that lies in their power, and to send their votes, and all that they can collect from their friends, to Mr. James W. Mathews, Duke of York's Theatre, who has the control of the case, and who is solicitous that the election may be successful on behalf of this unfortunate lady.

Mr. Percy Murray has taken the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane-square, for a series of matinées from April 21, and will produce there a three-act domestic comedy by Percival Sykes. His able lieutenant and general-manager is Mr. Robert O. Swift, from U.S.A.

The Liverpool Green Room Amateurs, a well-known combination of the Mersey city, have this week occupied the boards of the Repertory Theatre with a presentation of the American drama, "Paid in Full." The manner in which the company presented the work reflected great credit upon them, and it was voted the best thing they have done for some years. The artistes included Miss Lilian Thomson (Emma Brooks), Mr. H. W. P. Bennette (Joe Brooks), Mr. Arthur Yates-Baxter (Captain Williams), Mr. W. R. Broad (Jimsy Smith), Miss Croker Read (Beth), Miss Maud Kirkness (Mrs. Harris), and Mr. Cecil Boggs (Sato).

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All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, One o'clock Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the management.

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General Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly (6.30 and 9.10). Calls, Monday, March 17, 1913:—O. Cray's drama, "The Mormon and His Wives." Johnson Clark, Bioscope, Gwen Taylor, Selection, Billy French. Matinée, Thursday.

Artistes must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

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By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artistes, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

STAR.
The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artiste must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work, "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1913.

WOMEN AND PLAYS.

The revival of "The Schoolmistress" at the Vaudeville has drawn attention to the large amount of water which has run under the bridges since it was produced; and Mr. JOHN PALMER, writing in the "Saturday Review," expresses anything but a cheerful opinion of the present condition of the present and future stage. "We are living upon the past," he says. "The intellectual theatre is as bankrupt of new names as the theatres of commerce. The present state of the theatre precisely resembles its condition prior to the naturalisation of IBSEN and the discovery of Mr. BERNARD SHAW. We sit among the tombstones of the past endeavouring to raise a ghost of the future. The theatre is to-day in a mood of irritable and restless expectation. It tries everything; sticks fast to nothing. It runs confusedly about from the latest play of the youngest to the oldest play of the oldest playwright. It is behaving like a sojourner with loins girded for a journey. It is not a pleasant condition of affairs. . . . Common sense has done its work in the modern theatre. HANKIN, Mr. SHAW, Mr. GALSWORTHY and their disciples have let the light of reason into stage-plays. During the first years of their activity every day it could be proclaimed from the theatre-tops that one more horrid sham of an art was dead. These were splendid years. But we must guard against imagining that we can continue to live upon men whose work is done. Common sense has killed the works of a generation that imagined vain things, and we have now to produce a generation which will imagine things that are true. Mr. GALSWORTHY is a summit of dramatic achievement; but he is a summit whence we are clearly able to spy out the nakedness of our condition. The English theatre is in the perilous and interesting state of the man whose devils have, for the moment, left him swept and garnished."

This is just what we foretold twenty years ago. The "commercial prosperity of IBSEN" has not come off; and the only material success of the advanced school is "Fanny's First Play," a modernised version of the old theme of the individual who "goes on the spree," assaults the police, and has to answer for it next day, with a happy touch of make-up personality after the manner of "The Happy Land." But there is a danger, distant at present, but clearly visible to the telescopic eye, which threatens to change if not to ruin the trade of playwriting altogether.

We print on this page the result of our voting competition to test the proportion of suffragists and anti-suffragists among our actresses. As will be seen, the numbers are almost equally divided—a very serious state of things when we consider the amount of energy, ability, and self-sacrificing fanaticism which undeniably exists among the suffragists. As a contribution to data on the subject, our plebiscite is a valuable contribution to the female franchise question. But that is not by any means the most serious matter to the aspiring dramatist. What is of importance—if the proportions are about the same in other classes and amongst the general female public—is that when the female sex becomes "advanced" and emancipated a whole stock of dramatic motives will have to be put on the shelf. Take, for instance, Jealousy. With equal marriage laws it will be absolutely absurd. Obviously jealousy is only reasonable when based on the feeling of property in the wife. The mechanic who, when informed that one of his fellows had seduced his spouse, immediately drank up the offender's beer, expressed the prevailing sentiment exactly. The ridicule which attached to the "cuckold," as he was called in the old plays, was based on a scorn similar to that which the average man felt for the horse-owner whose steed had been stolen from his stable, galloped along the roads, and slyly returned to its stall. When the marriage laws are reformed, and marriage is merely a partnership between two parties, entering into a contract on equal terms, which may be dissolved at the desire of either of them, jealousy will be "ruled out" as a dramatic motive.

Comedy also will have to undergo a change. At present, a large proportion of fun is obtained from the exposure of the shams and pretences which are at present customary. Decency is not natural to males; it is one of the many concessions to female weakness. When the women cease to be weak, they will also cease to be delicate. In the last generation, when an adventuress was introduced into a play, she invariably smoked a cigarette. Nowadays to smoke a cigarette counts for nothing, because every woman does it. And it will be the same with suggestive and "risky" dialogue. Seduction, which has in its time served as the "motive" of so many excellent dramas, will be useless. For the tragedy of seduction lay not in its punishment but in its guilt. The woman was said to have lost her "virtue," her value, and was treated accordingly. When the female sex has reached the level of the heroine of "Hindle Wakes"; when they are so "emancipated" as to be able to endorse Mr. BERNARD SHAW'S doctrine that whether a girl should preserve her chastity or not is entirely a question of circumstances and expediency, and of no more importance than whether she takes a cab or walks; then obviously it will be all over with the harrowing scenes, the confessions, the shameful sobbings, and the suicides which were so useful to the melodramatist.

There will probably however be a period of reaction in which the playwriters will turn the weapons of the advanced against them as IBSEN did in "The Wild Duck" and SHAW did in "Getting Married"; and as Mr. FRANKFORT MOORE did in fiction in "I Forbid the Banns." Already some merry situations suggest themselves, such as that of a happily married opponent of marriage who is in somewhat the same comical position as that of a total abstainer who keeps a public-house, and lectures his customers over the bar on the evils of "that cursèd drink." A more piquant situation will be that of the modern girl-disciple of SHAW debating seriously with herself whether circumstances warrant her in parting with her virtue. "To walk or take a cab, that is the question; Whether 'tis nobler in a girl to suffer"—and so forth. And then we may have the professional man who has been "ruined" by yielding to the temptations of some "Hindle Wakes" heroine, reproaching her bitterly and asking "why there should not be the same law for the man as for the woman?" and why he—in the absence of a convenient "big sister"—should not be allowed to give her a jolly good thrashing. Just as Mr. JENKINS in "Two Roses" did not find the society of the serious half as dull as he had expected it to be before he "put off the old man," so we dare say there will be no want of fun when the equality of the sexes is established, and the Woman of the Future has become the Woman of the Present.

ACTRESSES AND THE VOTE.

Female Franchise having become a "burning question," and the Actresses' Franchise League an important and active association, we have taken a census of the feeling in the profession on the subject. The result is that 244 actresses are in favour of women having the vote, and 346 are against their having it, while 845 are indifferent.

THE LONDON DRAMATIC BUREAU.

At an entertainment at the Rehearsal Theatre on Friday afternoon last, held under the auspices of the London Dramatic Bureau, Mr. Jas. Preston presented two sketches.

The first was a comedy sketch in one act, by Margaret Linton, called

"THE LITTLE SECRET."

Hester Tanner .....Miss Ethel Hall
Iris Clifford .....Miss Bell Hames
Olive Hay .....Miss Minnie Seymour
Arnold Broadfoote .....Mr. William Gourlay

Iris Clifford, in her desire to escape from an unwelcome match which her aunt, Hester Tanner, was endeavouring to force upon her, answered a matrimonial advertisement from Arnold Broadfoote, an elderly man, who turns out to have been the aunt's runaway lover of twenty years before. So Hester's joyful recognition of the youth-desiring Broadfoote satisfactorily extricates the niece from a rather awkward dilemma. Mr. William Gourlay acted with humour as the middle-aged suitor. Miss Ethel Hall played the aunt with no little ability. Miss Bell Hames did fairly well as Iris; and her friend, Olive Hay, was brightly represented by Miss Minnie Seymour. This was followed by a farce in one act, by Alexander J. Haviland, entitled

"ACTING MAD."

An Actor, Author, &c...Mr. Alex. J. Haviland
A Postman .....Mr. Edward Ashworth
A Maid of all Work ..Miss Phyllis Vaughan

In "Acting Mad" the author gives us humour of the stage-struck kind. He himself played with spirit, and used a good baritone effectively, as an actor-author, who has to fall back temporarily upon the co-operation of a Belinda-resembling maid-of-all-work and a comic postman for the purposes of a sketch of his, these rôles being assumed with considerable drollery by Miss Phyllis Vaughan and Mr. Edward Ashworth.

The attraction next week at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, is Captain E. Hill-Mitchelson's play, "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment," and the author will appear in the leading part of Captain Ketloff. The chief player will have the support of an excellent company, and Miss Tessa Myers will appear as the Queen. The special Easter week attraction at the New Theatre Royal will be Mr. Stanley Houghton's famous play, "Hindle Wakes."

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Miss Eva Moore, was the charming hostess at the meeting of the Actress's Franchise League at the Criterion Restaurant on the 6th inst., and welcomed a large attendance. The League boasts a membership of between seven and eight hundred, and is making new members daily.

Miss Cicely Hamilton presided, and in her opening speech said Suffragettes had reason to cry "No!" to the question, "Are you downhearted?" It was no use disguising from themselves that the Suffrage movement had of late received a severe, if not altogether unexpected, check. They had been thrust back, but everyone present was aware that the movement "Votes for women" was not everything for women. If they had failed in one particular point, let them look back upon the work of the last few years and see, not only how differently women were regarded by society in general, but how very differently woman regarded herself. They had no business to be downhearted because they got a check. The people who just went out to fight and win did not deserve it, and to people who were only prepared to win all along the line, success was not worth the having when they got it. It did a cause a great deal of good every now and again to get a setback or a beating. If she had the care of children, the first thing she would endeavour to teach them would be how to take a licking. They had learned at least how to deserve success.

Mr. Malcolm Mitchell said their president had a right to tell them not to be downhearted. She had worked hard in her profession, and those who had known Miss Hamilton during the past few years, knew of the struggle she had had to win literary fame, and of her wonderful self-sacrifice in behalf of Votes for Women. He reviewed the Parliamentary situation with regard to the woman suffrage question, and deplored the ineptitude of the present Government. It was foolish to suppose they would succeed in obtaining women's suffrage through the medium of a private Bill, and their answer to that proposal was most distinctly, "No!" They had tried to get a Bill through on non-party lines, and now they found that in the eyes of Mr. Speaker they could never graft on to a Bill to enfranchise men a clause enfranchising women. If the Government itself could not guarantee them a fair chance in a Government measure, the only logical policy they could adopt was to work for another Government. In other words, to vary the phrase applied recently to the Conservative Party—"Asquith must go!" They did not forget that Mr. Asquith had done work few men were capable of doing in the House of Commons, but they believed that the enfranchisement of women was urgently needed, and they reluctantly came to the conclusion that woman suffrage was more important to the country than Mr. Asquith. What was it made the cause of woman suffrage far beyond any of the important issues which confront the civilised world? It was a profound mistake to suppose that the enfranchisement of women was wholly or even mainly, a political question. It went further than the demand that women should have the same rights as the others of the human race. Men and women called upon to discharge the same services to the world should be armed with the same weapons. The most attractive side to the woman suffrage question was that the great bulk of its supporters had nothing personally to gain by it. A great proportion of women, fortunate enough to become joint heads of a happy household were in sympathy with their less fortunate sisters. It was a mistake to suppose that there was anything like a sex war, though the anti-Suffragists, with Machiavellian subtlety, had tried to prove otherwise, and it was ridiculous to suggest that women in the bulk lived on the chivalry of the other sex. The society under whose auspices they were assembled was a society of professional and artistic women, who, in a certain sense, are ranked among women workers. The wages they received were based upon their immediate value to the concern of which they formed part. The actress did not get less for doing that part because she was a woman, and, therefore, cheaper than a man. Their hostesses that afternoon were doing a very great work in standing up for the rights of other women, because they themselves, economically speaking, have nothing to gain. It was the driving force of the movement that the great bulk of those fighting for woman suffrage were doing so from a purely patriotic motive, and with a desire to see others benefit. In this country there were 5½ million women earning their own living and obtaining an average of 7s. 6d. to 11s. a week. Women, in so far as their wages were low, were the weakest link in the labour market, which meant that the worst enemy the working-man had was his own daughter. The one weapon in the possession of an unscrupulous employer was the fact that he could get women cheaper than men. That was by no means a sentimental question. The German post-office system was worked on the same lines as our own, and it was discovered that the work of a certain number of posts, employing 8,600 people, could be done equally well by women as by men, with the additional advantage that the country would save £300 in wages. By means of these 8,600 women the German Government was able to turn out 8,600 men. Enfranchisement of women would be good for men. Was it good for women that they should be hired at sweated wages? Let them consider the conditions of a large number of people who came into the labour market. 30 per cent. of married women became widows at the age of fifty. Those women had fulfilled the anti-Suffragist and the Suffragist ideal of being mothers and were driven to earn their own living. The professional men between twenty-two and fifty became more valuable by learning and by experience, but those widows, having done the work important to the community, were called upon to enter the labour market when getting old, and when all the work they had done was the last kind of thing that fitted them for the purpose. What had that to do with the vote? Well, the working man was in a much stronger position in bargaining for wages if he was able to bring direct pressure upon the law-making machine. They could not nowadays leave employer and employed to settle the law of supply and demand absolutely at their own sweet will. There was a growing tendency to regulate such matters in the interests of the whole community—the working man through his trade unions—and it was impossible for anyone to contend that the working man did not bargain with a stronger weapon than before he had the vote. The working woman would have the same increase of power if she had the vote. The woman who worked should be among those who because they have the vote are always considered whenever a law is passed. Referring to the recent Suffragist attacks on property and the reprisals on the part of the public, the speaker said it was wrong to say that militancy had "roused the sleeping lion." It was not militancy only that roused the beast among a certain class of men, who were ready to commit excesses on the slightest provocation. The tide of their success was in no way stemmed by the action of any of their sisters, and nothing would stop the passion for self-sacrifice for the sake of national achievement until it was satisfied. (Applause.)

Miss Eva Moore announced, amid applause, that Miss Winifred Mayo had been appointed organiser, and appealed for the co-operation of the members. The League wanted money and a typewriter. There was a very general opinion that the Actresses' Franchise League was enormously rich. They really were not rich, every penny being spent in propaganda work. She suggested they should have a self-denial week. Let them put on one side the money they were going to spend on some new article of attire and send it to the League, thus giving the lie direct to their anti-friends, who said the majority of women did not sympathise with them. They were desirous of getting new members. The subscription was 1s., and they could become patrons for 10s. 6d. The next meeting would be on Friday, April 4. There was to be a mass meeting for men at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street on Monday, March 17, at 8. Admission would be free, with reserved seats at 6d. It was the first big meeting organised by men only for woman suffrage, and they hoped it would be well attended. Also Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. Forbes Robertson had generously placed at their disposal Drury Lane Theatre for a meeting on Friday, May 2, which should be a red-letter day for all. A great many actresses belonging to the League would be present to make speeches and justify their belief in woman's enfranchisement. (Cheers.)

Miss Flora Annie Steel was the next speaker. She said it was extremely difficult to get into men's minds the fact that they were not asking for anything like universal suffrage for women. In the Ratepayers' Register a star was placed against the name of the person unfit to vote, and women were included in that category. What they were really asking was that that star should be removed. They wanted to be persons, they did not want to be things. Sometimes women said to her, "I am not at all sure that I would not prefer to be a thing and not a person." To them she replied, "My dear lady, it doesn't matter what you prefer; the question you have to settle is what you are. You will have to answer whether you are a person or a thing before the judgment seat of God." Women in public had always fulfilled their duties extremely well—the late Queen Victoria, for instance. There was no woman in that room that could not, if she chose, give some useful hints to the men in their work. One thing women must remember was that they must hold together. They could not afford to quarrel, but should try and convince each other in a friendly way.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your leading article, "Actresses and the Franchise," in yesterday's "Era" you give some examples of "equality" between men and women on the stage. Will you kindly grant me space to ask a few questions on some inequalities? Are not male "supers" paid more than female for doing the same work, male choristers more than female, male understudies more than female, walking gentlemen more than walking ladies (when paid at all)? Are not in some cases women paid *more* than men for doing *less* work? Are salaries paid according to the length and importance of "parts," or do not Mr. and Miss "Star" command enormous salaries (more than either are "histrionically" worth, in some cases), whereas Mr. and Miss "Rankandfile" have to be content with anything they can get (the women usually less than the men for doing the same amount of work) for playing those same "star parts" in which some often outshine the "Stars"?

Are all actresses "self-supporting" on the salaries they receive for "acting"? Have not the majority an ungodly struggle to keep body and soul together on "lowest terms"?

Are actresses ever "knighted" and "presented" at Court? And are not actresses just as worthy of that honour as actors? Beyond their equal feeling of comradeship I "hae ma' doots" about their equality unless it lies in some "good old" law branding them both as "rogues and vagabonds" (or does that law only apply to music hall artistes?)

The actress-suffragist who said, "*We* have got what we want" seems rather confused as to what we have got and "what we want." We *want* the *vote*, which we have not got any more than other women, and which, God knows, we need as much for our own sakes as others!—Yours faithfully,

ONE OF THE FIRST A.F.L. MEMBERS.
86, Kennington-road, S.E.
March 9, 1913.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have filled in the voting card sent me by the Actresses' Franchise League and returned it to "The Era" office.

But the next time that you wish to sound the opinions of the ladies in the theatrical profession on any important matter, would it not perhaps be as well to make the stipulations that any person recording a vote should—

(a) Understand what they are voting for or against;

(b) Give the matter, say, five minutes' consideration.

On Saturday night I asked the very charming and talented little lady with whom I have had the pleasure of sharing a dressing-room for some weeks, if she had filled in her card.

The answer was: "Of course. I voted against suffrage. Suffragettes are a lot of silly idiots who burn our letters." I explained that the militants formed only a very small proportion of the self-sacrificing and conscientious body of women who are working in the cause of their sex.

The final and crushing retort I received was:—"Oh! Well, my husband doesn't think women ought to vote, and as I know nothing about these things, and care less, I just put a cross where he told me to and sent it off."

Comment is needless.—Yours faithfully,

ROSE BERYL,
"10.30 Down Express" Company.
King's Theatre, Worksop, March 10.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Kinemacolor" Catalogue of Kinemacolor Film Subjects. 318 pages, with coloured illustrations. Issued by the Natural Color Kinematograph Co., Ltd.

"A Smile," "Don't Worry," and other verses, by Sivori Levey. Price 6d. Published by Sivori Levey.

"A Little World," by Arnold Galsworthy. 319 pages. Price 6s. Published by George Allen and Co., Ltd.

"Five Unpractical Plays," by Kenneth Weeks. Price 5s. Published by George Allen and Co., Ltd.

Mr. Arnold Lucy has played Mr. Knox in "Fanny's First Play" over 775 times. He has been in the play continuously since it was produced in London, and his only rest was during the voyage to New York. He has appeared at William Collier's Comedy Theatre in New York for more than 200 performances, and for 575 performances in London.

In reference to the announcement that Mr. Bernard Fagan is finishing a play which he purposes calling "A Conspiracy of Silence," Mr. S. J. Adair Fitz-Gerald asks us to state that a drama bearing this title was completed by him long ago, and has been in the hands of Mr. Ben Nathan, Mr. Fitz-Gerald's agent. The Copyright Act of 1911, Mr. Fitz-Gerald assumes, does not compel production of a play to secure protection and copyright. When a writer has written a play it becomes his copyright property if he has it typed by a responsible firm and the firm signs on the title page that they did typewrite the play on a certain date, and they give the date in writing on the said title page.

MEDICAL BENEFITS ON TOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Enclosed herewith copy of a letter I have this day sent to the Insurance Commissioners, and I hope you will be able to find space for it.

I feel quite certain that not two per cent. of the insured members of the profession are aware that the Commissioners' latest dictum is that there is to be *no medical benefit for touring people*, and I hope you will do all you can to draw attention to this scandalous state of affairs.—Yours faithfully,

KEITH LAYDER.
6, Jubilee-drive, Kensington, Liverpool.
March 9, 1913.

[COPY.]

The Secretary, National Health Commission, England.

SIR,—Whilst thanking you for your letter of Feb. 29, I really must point out that it tells me nothing that was not already public property before I wrote you two months ago. Nor does it in any way meet the case I presented to you.

You must be aware that the proviso by which local Insurance Committees may grant a trifling sum instead of supplying full medical benefits applies (and is only intended to apply) to insured persons who refuse the services of the panel doctors—preferring to make their own arrangements.

But touring theatrical people have *not* refused to accept panel doctors—it is the panel doctors who have refused to give them the attendance the Act entitles them to.

You must therefore agree that the proviso referred to is a mere quibble in this case.

It must be obvious that the matter cannot end here, and I would suggest that it is preferable to face the facts *now* rather than wait till the affair reaches the dimensions of a public scandal.

A lack of knowledge of the conditions of theatrical touring life may leave you in some doubt as to the best way of meeting the issue. In that event, may I refer you to the Touring Managers' Association, 5, Wardour-street, W.; the Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W.; and the Variety Artistes' Federation, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.? From these bodies you will be able to get all the information needed.

And if I can be of any assistance you may command me at any time.—Yours truly,

KEITH LAYDER.

The president of the Theatrical Managers' Association, Mr. Cyril Maude, accompanied by two of the vice-presidents, Mr. J. B. Mulholland and Mr. J. F. Elliston, have had some valuable information given them at an informal meeting with the National Health Insurance Commissioners last week. The difficulties of those insured persons whose business compels them to be constantly travelling about the country, and thereby preventing them from obtaining the benefits of the Act, have been under special consideration, and it is satisfactory to learn that a form has been prepared to apply to such cases which has been circulated to the Insurance Committees all over the country, and if approved by them it will be adopted. Then those persons who, by reason of the nature of their occupation, change their residence too frequently to make arrangements with a single doctor, may, by filling in the form to the satisfaction of the Committee, claim compensation towards the cost of any medical attendance they may require.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT'S FAREWELL.

There was an impressive scene at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon when Sir Sir Squire Bancroft made his final appearance before the public. It is fifty-two years ago since Sir Squire made his début at the age of nineteen, and in 1885, after a successful career, both he and Lady Bancroft retired from public life. In 1896 Sir Squire commenced his readings of Dickens's "Christmas Carol" in the cause of charity. He has read the story in public nearly 150 times, and has earned £20,000 for charities by so doing. The idea came to him in 1896, when he was asked by the Rev. William Rogers to give a lecture at his institute in Bishopsgate, and eventually decided to give a reading of the "Carol" instead. He found that his reading was an admirable substitute for a lecture, and so tried to raise money for charity by it, making £10,000 in two years. He began by reading the story, but has recited it from memory on many occasions. Sir Squire was once reciting the "Carol" at Hall Barn, the residence of Lord Burnham, when the late King Edward, then Prince of Wales, asked him if an invitation to Sandringham on the following Christmas would be useful to the hospitals. Shortly afterwards the invitation came. Sir Squire has given seven readings in Canada, on a suggestion made to him by Lord Strathcona. Apart from the rent of theatres, Sir Squire has himself borne all the expenses of the scheme.

At the St. James's on Tuesday the audience was held spellbound by Sir Squire's rendering of the story, and when he concluded with Tiny Tim's words, "God bless us everyone," the house burst into loud and enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Henry Fielding Dickens, K.C., who presided, thanked Sir Squire Bancroft on behalf of those present for his delightful reading, and said that nothing would have pleased his father more than that his work should have been used in the sacred cause of helping sick and suffering humanity. Charles Dickens during his lifetime always had the interests of the hospitals at heart, as those who were connected with the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond-street would testify.

Sir Squire Bancroft, who was visibly affected, said that he made his final bow with feelings of gratitude and feelings of affection for the playgoing public, at whose hands he had at all times received unvarying kindness.

THE PEDGRIFT TESTIMONIAL.

A testimonial is being prepared for Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, who joined the staff of this paper in 1875, and retired recently from the position of its business manager. As publisher of the paper, acting under the directions of the late Editor, Mr. Edward Ledger, Mr. Pedgrift did good service in connection with the various charities and subscriptions promoted and assisted by "The Era"; and on Mr. Ledger's retirement in 1904 Mr. Pedgrift became honorary treasurer of several of the funds which had been started by this paper. He was especially interested in the Music Hall Home, after it was founded by Mr. Dan Leno, and Mr. Cecil Merrie in 1897, and devoted much attention to the "Shilling Fund," which was of so much assistance in supplying funds for the institution. He also gave cordial co-operation to the passing of the Musical Piracy Act by the exertions of Mr. T. P. O'Connor. When the showmen's Guild was founded by some leading showmen in 1888, Mr. Pedgrift connected himself prominently with the movement. He was also much interested in the annual Theatrical Sports. We have received the following subscriptions to the testimonial:—

Sir Squire Bancroft	2	2	0
John Hyman, Esq.	2	2	0
W. W. Kelly, Esq.	1	1	0
Percy Hutchison, Esq.	1	1	0
Albert A. Strong, Esq.	1	1	0
Graham Moffat, Esq.	1	1	0
Harry Nicholls, Esq.		10	6
Robert Grey		5	

Mr. Alfred Barnard is the hon. treasurer of the Fund, which is being organised by Mr. Young, the secretary of the Actors' Association, to whom subscriptions may also be sent.

VARIETY GOSSIP

Canberra, the new capital of the Australian Commonwealth, is to have a national theatre, whether endowed or not remains to be seen. We may be sure, however, that there will be erected in the new and beautiful city an unendowed variety house such as Australia has never before seen—one in which will be enshrined the best there is in music-hall art. For, after all, art has not been banished from the halls, even though we often hear so much of the entertainer who has "the goods." We need hardly add that the new palace of vaudeville will be built by Hugh D. McIntosh, the proprietor of the Harry Rickards' circuit.

The ignorance of the Bench concerning the history of the British stage is lamentable. One remembers, years ago, a judge exclaiming during an action in the Queen's Bench, "Who is Connie Gilchrist?" and during the week Mr. Justice Darling in the Pélissier-Palace case has confessed his ignorance of the fame of the late Fred. Leslie. His ignorance is not shared by Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., Mr. Pélissier's counsel, who will preside to-morrow evening at the Forbes-Robertson dinner.

By the way, there was at least one witty passage in the action mentioned above, and Mr. Justice Darling, who is the chartered jester of the courts, was certainly eclipsed for once by a witness—Mr. John Bull, the scene-painter. Such a name suggested to the judge that the well-known artist might supply a battleship if required, to which Mr. Bull assented. Mr. Marshall Hall then interjected the remark, "If Mr. Winston Churchill would have spared one." Mr. Bull immediately scored. He came in pat with the remark, "But he would have done so for Mr. John Bull." A remark that was received with loud laughter.

Copy of cable received by Mr. Harry Friedman, London manager of the South African Palladiums, Ltd.:—"Sacksidum, London. Johannesburg, March 9, 1913.—Palladium great success. Crowded houses every night. Glad we came out here. Management treating us with greatest kindness and consideration. All turns doing big. Signed: Harold Wellesley (for Fred Karno's Co.), Dillon Shallard, William Saville, Constance Balfour, Norman's Eight Sunray Girls, Elizabeth Clair, Madge Osmond, Millie Jillson, Elise Clerc, Emil Zajah, Bert Clerc, Bert Banvard (for Six Flying Banvards), Lucy Gillett, Gertrude Lester, and Bellclair Brothers.

Mlle. Adeline Genée's future plans are full of interest. On the 17th she leaves San Francisco for Los Angeles, and sails for England on April 8. She will be in London for ten days only, sailing again for New York, whence she proceeds to Vancouver. On May 14 she sails for Australia, to fulfil a forty weeks' engagement. Her appearance at the Coliseum has, through the courtesy of Mr. Oswald Stoll, been postponed until March, 1914.

Mrs. Sterling Mackinlay will make her first appearance on the variety stage at the Camberwell Palace on Monday next in a new sketch, entitled "An Awkward Fix." The company supporting her will include Mr. Norman Yates, who has just finished an engagement at the New Theatre in "Ready Money." Mrs. Sterling Mackinlay is an exceptional linguist, and has acted in three different languages—English, French, and Norwegian.

Captain Arthur Wood, a son of Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood, and Captain Henry Green, D.S.O., who are appearing in the variety programme at the new Hippodrome, Aldershot, this week, belonged to the Scottish Rifles (Cameronians), and saw considerable war service during the South African campaign, both having been mentioned in despatches for heroic conduct upon the field. Captain Arthur Wood has previously appeared in Aldershot and elsewhere "on the boards" with success, both before he left the Army and afterwards, and whilst he was acting as aide-de-camp to General Smith-Dorrien at Aldershot he was commanded to appear before the King and Queen, who were then the Prince and Princess of Wales.

That Miss Nancy Price does not believe in the one-part sketch is proved by her selection of "The Borstal Boy," by H. Hamilton Fyfe, in which she makes her reappearance at the Coliseum on Monday, a piece in which all parts are equally good. It is not her policy to divulge plots beforehand, but she says playgoers need have no fear of a problem play. It is the simplicity of this little piece that first attracted her, and the fact that all the characters are real flesh and blood folk. She says the moral of the piece may be said to be, "If you take a husband, mind you have a brother!"

Miss Price brings with her Mr. John McNally, probably the youngest man playing old man's parts in London. "Hindle Wakes" first brought him to London, in which piece he played Sir Timothy Faro. Latterly he has been playing the stern, puritanical parent in "Trust the People." Miss Price, after great difficulty, has secured Mr. Reginald Davies to play the brother-in-law. Mr. Davies is probably as well known in the athletic world as on the stage. His Gloster Dick will be remembered in Conan Doyle's "House of Temperley." In his day he won the quarter-mile public school open championship for running, and to expound Mr. Davies' prowess to hockey players would be a waste of time. Mr. MacNally and Miss Nancy Price play husband and wife, and Mr. Davies the brother-in-law.

Mr. Bert Gilbert, having concluded a brilliantly successful pantomime engagement, is now on tour with his droll interlude, "The Ticket Collector," which is at the Empire, West Hartlepool, this week. Since its original production at the Palladium it has been carefully revised and re-written, and in its new form was reproduced at the Grand, Birmingham, in May last. Mr. Gilbert plays with a wealth of comic force a passenger stranded at a country station. As there is also a lady passenger in a similar plight, there are opportunities for the introduction of songs and duets, in which Mr. Bert Gilbert has an artistic and sweet-voiced comrade in Miss Ivy Ray, the latter singing very prettily, "The rose in the bud." Mr. Pearce Robinson as the ticket-collector completes the cast. The production makes a genuine hit.

An exciting football match was played on Clifton Downs last Wednesday afternoon between teams representing the stage staff of Mr. Stoll's Bristol Hippodrome and Mr. Hengler's "Redskin" company, at present performing at the Hippodrome. The game, which was well contested, ended in a victory for the Hippodrome by 5 goals to 1. Not the least interesting feature of the match was the energetic—not to say, acrobatic—refereeing of Mr. Richard Winslow, the respected stage-manager. For the Hippodrome goals were scored by Chapman, Payne (2), Sullivan, and Dunk. The "Redskin" goal was scored by Black. The teams were:—Hippodrome—Sullivan, Guidvell, Weber, Dunk (captain), Edwards, Edmondson, Griffiths, Cole, Chapman, and Hogan (in goal). "Redskin"—Driscoll, Haward, Sullivan, Smith, Vowles, Berril, Fort, Marks (captain), and W. Momber (in goal).

As the result of a special performance at the Lowestoft Hippodrome on behalf of the Lowestoft Hospital Mr. Gilbert has handed over £150 to that institution.

Through the medium of these columns Mr. T. Aynsley Cook desires most sincerely to thank his numerous friends for their many kind expressions of sympathy and floral tributes, received during his recent sad bereavement, and trusts, under the circumstances, that he will not be considered ungrateful or discourteous not having written to thank each of them personally.

An amusing incident arose out of the visit to Birmingham last week of G. H. Elliott, the popular chocolate coloured coon. The drama, "As White as a Lily," was being played at one of the local theatres, and the bill posters evidently became slightly mixed, for on one of the hoardings the folowing notice appeared:—"Twice nightly, G. H. Elliott, the Chocolate Coloured Coon. 'As White as a Lily,' twice nightly."

G. H. Elliott, the chocolate coloured coon, established a record at the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, last week, singing to large and enthusiastic audiences every evening. There is certainly no star more popular in the Midland city than Elliott, for this is his third visit within the past twelve months.

At a meeting of variety agents, artistes, and friends held at the Queen's Hotel on Friday evening, 7th, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. Hatton Wharton be presented with a testimonial on the occasion of his retirement from Moss' Empires, after 15 years' service with that firm. Mr. Charles Stafford, partner in the firm of well-known theatrical printers, Messrs. Stafford and Co., of Nottingham, was elected hon. sec. and treasurer, and will be happy to receive subscriptions at the Netherfield Printing Works, Nottingham.

Mr. Ernest Wighton writes:—"I note Mr. Wharton's comments in your last issue. Any doubts as to my statements can be easily dispelled by application to my managing-director, Mr. Frank Allen."

The charity football match on Thursday (6th) was marred by a most unfortunate accident to George Raymond, of the Brothers Raymond, who fractured his ankle soon after the start of the droll game between Tottenham Hotspur and a team of variety artistes.

Realising the truth of the axiom, "He that gives quickly gives twice," Mr. G. W. Perry, manager of the Tottenham Palace, has already arranged for a benefit for the injured artiste. The date fixed is March 18. Will performers make a note of the date? Offers of assistance should be sent on to Manager G. W. Perry, Tottenham Palace, N.

Mr. Alan Young, for many years associated with the Moss and Stoll interests and now general-manager for the Empire, Preston, recently had a handsome offer to take up an important position at the head offices of the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, which offer he was regretfully compelled to decline, as he would have liked much to work with his old colleague, Paul Murray.

Mr. Young made it a condition of his acceptance that he continued to book for Preston Empire, but the Controlling Company would not agree to this. Apart from legal obligations, Mr. Young could not honourably have thrown Preston over in the present circumstances. The matter is at an end, but Mr. Young is not a loser, as Mr. Edwin Bush, his managing-director, was so pleased at his remaining in Preston that he made him a handsome present.

Dr. Walford Bodie, who sent a congratulatory telegram to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, received the following wire in reply:—"Dr. Bodie, The Manor House, Macduff. O.H.M.S., Buckingham Palace. Queen Alexandra desires me to thank Mrs. Walford Bodie and you most sincerely for kind congratulations and good wishes.—H. Streatfield, Private Secretary."

Mr. Reginald Davis, who is to appear with Miss Nancy Price at the Coliseum next week, in "The Borstal Boy," has lately been devoting his exceptional talent to the shrine of Cinema, and with such happy results that a leading American firm of film manufacturers have just cabled him a most tempting offer to star for them.

The success of Mr. Albert de Courville and Mr. Max Pemberton's "Hullo, Ragtime!" at the Hippodrome continues to be so gratifyingly obstinate that Frank Allen and Albert de Courville have organised a No. 2 company for the suburbs and provinces. This will start on Easter Monday at the Finsbury Park Empire. Mr. Willie Solar and Miss Elida Morris will sustain principal parts.

Mr. John Tiller has gone with a company of fifty-four performers on a six months' tour of the B. and F. Wheeler Circuit of South Africa. They all sailed last Saturday on the Guildford Castle from Southampton, and just prior to the boat leaving Mr. Tiller was handed over 100 telegrams from different parts of the world wishing him bon voyage and all kind of success. Another of Mr. Tiller's famous troupes, the Palace Girls, sailed on Wednesday to open at the Palace Theatre, New York (under the direction of Mr. Martin Beck), with a tour of the United States and Canada to follow.

Something quite new is "The Magician's Club," which is to be formally opened by its president, Harry Houdini, on Sunday evening next. Up to the present there has been no rendezvous for magicians. The new club should supply this want and become the headquarters of magic not only as regards this country, but as regards the whole world. It should bring together the followers of the art, both amateur and professional. The new club is conveniently situated just off Holborn, the exact address being 2, Gray's Inn-road. It is replete with every comfort, and contains a museum and library which is unique. The Magicians' Club will be governed by a strong committee of prominent magicians with Mr. Will Goldston at the helm.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Spry write to us:—"After a most happy and comfortable voyage we have arrived in South Africa, and opened up at the Grand Theatre, Cape Town. Please excuse me giving the very old gag of 'making the greatest hit of any artiste that has appeared in South Africa.' I am too bashful to say how we pleased the folks. Cape Town is a beautiful place, from a scenic point of view—so many lovely motor rides, and to get to the top of Table Mountain is the sight of a lifetime. The weather is rather warm; too warm, in fact, for the Old Country people who have just left winter behind. However, we manage to stand it, but we have to wear our Salome dresses (almost) to do so. We are off to Port Elizabeth next week, and then to Johannesburg, finishing up at Durban, where we ship for Australia. I am confident we are going to have a very happy and successful trip. Messrs. Hyman make things very comfortable for the artistes here. Kindest thoughts to all."

On account of family bereavement Miss Gertie Gitana was unable to appear at the Chatham Empire on Monday evening. Mr. Cooper Mitchell deputised, and made a hit with his dialect yarns.

Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son have decided to play vaudeville at the Preston Hippodrome and dramatic attractions at the Palace, Preston, as was originally intended before the Palace was designed or built.

Messrs. John Hyman and Co., naval, military, livery, and theatrical costumiers, of 29, Leicester-square, W., close their premises from Thursday evening next to the following Tuesday morning (25th) for the Easter holidays.

We hope our readers will not forget the annual general meeting of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution on Sunday evening at 7.30, at the Bedford Head Hotel. The annual report of the committee and the statement of receipts and payments for the past year will be submitted. Also, we are informed, an important resolution will be proposed, and a very interesting announcement made, so it is hoped that the attendance will be larger than usual.

Mr. Percy Davison's new Indian production, "A Jewel of the East," opens at the Bedford on Monday next. Included in the cast are Miss Patricia Clive, Mr. Percy Davison, Mr. Cecil Clive, Mr. A. Morris, and Miss Eileen Jowitt.

The Oxford and Cambridge crews had a hearty reception at the Alhambra on Thursday evening. In their honour a special novelty was added to the successful revue, "Kill That Fly," in the shape of a rowing scena in racing boats by two crews of beautiful feminine "eights" in the colours of the rival blues. A special rowing song with appropriate action accompanied this new feature.

"Enquire Within," which is another sketch from the pen of that prolific writer for the variety stage, Mr. Wal Pink, is to be seen for the first time in London at the New Cross Empire on Monday. Jay Laurier, one of the best of our dialect comedians, plays the chief part. The piece has been tried this week at the Empire, Edinburgh.

The sketch, "Stolen Fruit," by Cyril Twyford, the production of which has been twice postponed, will be given for the first time at the Tivoli on Monday. Hilda Moore, Ernest Thesiger, and Sybil de Bray will appear. The piece is fortunate in having Mr. Leon M. Lion as producer. Miss Moore has a fine part. George Formby and Maidie Scott join the Tivoli programme on Monday.

"This is the Business," a comic episode, which has been tried at Glasgow during the week, will be seen on Monday at the Finsbury Park Empire. It will be presented by W. Fullbrook, J. Nightingale, Arthur Stigant, and company.

Mr. Bert Coote will produce, on Monday, at the Ilford Hippodrome, a new serio-comic sketch, by Horace Kenney, entitled "The Office Boy," in which the author will be seen in the title-part.

Miss Toby Claude, who has just arrived from America with an American company, produced at the Hippodrome, Boscombe, on Monday last, an American entertainment, which for gaiety, brilliant singing, dancing and dressing will be hard to beat. In a well-set cabaret scene, topical and political duet, French chansons, and charming violin solos create enthusiasm, and a great surprise is the entirely new finish. The whole of the artistes go off the stage singing, distributing bouquets and strenuous through the audience, and a shower of streamers from the stage, supported by some invisible stretches across the auditorium—a pretty effect indeed. The enthusiasm with which this act has been received by Bournemouth and Boscombe audiences beggars description.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt met with an accident on Wednesday evening on her way to the theatre at Los Angeles. Her motor-car collided violently with a truck, and was completely wrecked. She was cut about the lips, her ankles were wrenched, and her body bruised. Nevertheless she insisted on going on and fulfilling her engagement.

We regret to hear that during the last two weeks of her performance as principal girl in "Tommy Tucker," Miss Topsy Sinden was severely handicapped by lameness due to an accidental kick. The stage staff presented the popular dancer with flowers, and the front of the house staff gave her silver vases and a silver tray with a large box of sweets. On Feb. 8 she was given a lovely silver tea service and silver tea-kettle. We hope to hear of Miss Sinden's speedy recovery.

Queen and Le Brun, the popular comedians, have just concluded a most successful season at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. They claim to have established an excellent reputation, being featured in eight successive Drury Lane pantomimes, after which they were for two years with Mr. J. C. Williamson in Australia. Coming back to England in 1909 they were immediately secured for pantomime by Howard and Wyndham, who have engaged them for five years in succession. They are naturally proud of such a record.

Who does not remember Jimmy Newland as the barrister in "Black Justice"? His was the task of "feeding" such comedians as Ben Brown and George Le Clercq, and his salary was not great. He has now fallen on evil days and a complimentary Bohemian concert will be given to him on Monday next at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant. The tickets are 2s. 6d. each, and can be had of Mr. Henry Clay, 106, Tressilian-road, Brockley, S.E., by whom subscriptions and offers of help will be welcomed.

Sir Robert Baden-Powell is to review to-day 2,500 Boy Scouts in Lincoln's-inn-fields at 2 p.m., and later will preside at a special Scout picture matinée at the New Middlesex to which the boys have been invited. Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton, the Chief Scout of America, will give a short lecture on Scout subjects during the course of the afternoon.

By kind permission of the directors of the Metropolitan the usual monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held there on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. William Bailey in the chair. Present: Messrs. Wainratta, Harmon, Drew, Handley, Bailey, jun., and the secretary. The business was principally routine, reception of reports, &c. The marked reduction of sick claims owing to the good health of members was a matter for congratulation, and hopes for its continuance were expressed. The financial report also was most satisfactory.

One of the outstanding features of the Good Friday evening concert at the London Coliseum will be the recital by Miss Irene Vanbrugh of Mr. Alfred Noyes' remarkable poem, "The Barrel-organ." The poem deals with thoughts suggested by a barrel-organ playing in a London street, and gives a vivid and interesting picture of passing personalities and emotions. The incidental music, which will be played by the augmented, invisible orchestra of fifty performers, has been arranged, and in parts composed, by Mr. Herbert Haines, who will conduct. The concert promises to be one of the most successful ever held at the London Coliseum.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

Music Hall Home.

At a committee meeting of the Music Hall Home held on Friday (7th) Mr. Harry Barnard occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. Harry Falls, Arthur Were, W. R. Dunkley, Tom Packer, T. C. Callaghan, Ben Woodger, and Jesse Sparrow. Cordial votes of thanks and hearty congratulations were accorded to Mr. Harry Bawn, Mr. Alfred Davies (of the "Encore"), Mr. Fred Alexander, Mr. Walter Norman, and Mr. Brown, of the White Hart Hotel, Tottenham, for the excellent services they rendered to the institution in connection with the Charity Football Match at Tottenham, which resulted in such gratifying success.

Friday, 21st, being Good Friday, the next committee meeting will be held on Friday, March 28, at 69, Kennington-road, S.E., at 3.30 p.m.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee of the M.H. Ladies' Guild beg to gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:—Miss Jessie Star, 12s. collection and 2s. 6d. donation; Mrs. M. Evans, 2s. 6d. donation; Miss Mahone, ladies' hats, also surgical aid letters; Miss Lottie Albert, clothing; Little Kelly, clothing.

There will be no minutes sent out to committee ladies, owing to the absence of the secretary, Miss May, who is away for the benefit of her health.

The Beneficent Order of Terriers.

Applications for membership have been received from George Wisdom (second notice), Daniel McDougall, Jack Thomas (third notice), and Joseph E. Osgood and Hans P. C. Ohlsen (final notice).

Mr. Frank Sweet's "Belgravia" Orchestra has been engaged for the first annual dinner of the Order, to be held at Frascati's on April 6. Tickets may be obtained of the secretary. The new badges are now on sale. A large number of Terriers were present on Sunday last at the annual dinner of the M.H.A.R.A. The vice-president, Terrier Syd Walker, represented the Order.

Mr. E. H. Lucas (Vice-President) occupied the chair at the usual weekly meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held on Wednesday afternoon at the offices of the Association. There were also present Messrs. F. W. Millis (Vice-President), Tom E. Conover, Harry Falls, T. C. Callaghan, Lieutenant Albini, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The weekly financial statement, showing sixty new members and a cash total of £84 12s. 6d., was passed.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.

VAUDEVILLE SEASON.

When Howard and Wyndham took over the Robert Arthur Theatres, I mentioned (writes our Edinburgh correspondent) that important developments might be expected. The forecast has come true quicker even than I anticipated. The Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, will soon be under the management, for five seasons, of Mr. Walter de Frece. The other day an application was made to the Town Council of Dundee for a continuation of the Excise licence which Her Majesty's Theatre there possesses for the variety season, which it is intended to inaugurate shortly, and which will be on the two-houses-a-night principle. The request was granted.

It is giving away no secret to state that Her Majesty's Theatre, especially in the summer season, is not one of the most successful houses in the country, and Messrs. Howard and Wyndham are well advised in endeavouring to get a share of the large traffic which the popular vaudeville entertainments have at their command; indeed, the industrial town on the Tay seems a good place to work meantime. The city has just become a submarine base, and this fact is ominous for still further naval schemes. Jack, it is well known, is a keen music hall lover, and the permanent residents are also in the main addicted to the same relaxation. As the "show" will be on first-class lines, Her Majesty's new career may mean much for managers, artistes, and public.

The Oxford announces for Monday a turn which should be of interest to all swimmers. Jabez Wolffe has been specially engaged, and will give a description of his efforts to swim the Channel. Pictures taken at the time of his plucky attempts will illustrate the lecture.

A music hall artiste whose professional name was Bi-Ber-Ti shot himself in a second-class carriage of the nine o'clock Continental express shortly before it left Charing Cross on Tuesday night. He was dead when admitted to the Charing Cross Hospital.

The deceased had been performing in England for some months, and appeared at the New Cross Empire on Monday and Tuesday last week. He underwent an operation recently for a serious internal complaint. On Tuesday night, having booked second-class passages to Brussels for himself, his wife, and little daughter, by whom he was accompanied, he entered the train after bidding farewell to a friend on the platform. Shortly afterwards the fatal shot was heard.

Miss Lottie Stone has rehearsed the Eastern dance which is such an engaging feature in Lew Lake's new sketch, "The Rib-nosed Baboon," at the Palladium. The eight members of her troupe performing it are the Pyjama Girls, who made a decided hit in the King's, Hammersmith, pantomime, and have since been round the halls.

The original Sisters Terry (Bella and Minnie) have just concluded a highly successful engagement with Chas. Elderton's successful pantomime, "Aladdin." They thank Signor and Mme. Pepi for basket of choice fruit and flowers, also the members of the company for handsome bouquets.

The charity match between the Police of the P Division (Camberwell) and Camberwell United, played recently at Champion Hill grounds, and at which Miss Victoria Monks "kicked off," realised £11 0s. 6d. This sum will be devoted to providing a tea and entertainment for some of the poorest children of the borough.

Miss Irene Richards is at the London Pavilion this week with her clever impressionist sketches of Miss Ethel Levey in "How do you do, Miss Ragtime?" Mr. Cyril Clensy, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. George Graves, and Mr. Wilkie Bard. Her versatility has perhaps even greater scope in her dance à la Pavlova—"the death of the swan." This is the little girl who went on at short notice and played Miss Dorothy Minto's part, as well as her own, in "Hullo, Ragtime," at the Hippodrome. This double duty necessitated Irene changing her dress no fewer than seven times.

An appropriate and welcome engagement at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday next, St. Patrick's Day, is that of Miss Elsie Kerry, Ireland's celebrated comedienne. Miss Kerry has ever been a popular favourite at the Brixton hall. She starts in April on an extended tour in South Africa, where she has already made hosts of friends and admirers.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Messrs. Henry Flanagan and Samuel Brown announce that they have placed the business of Pat, Doris and Avice Anno in the hands of Jack Goodson, Ltd.

"Bungle's Luck," the Kitchen production which opened with such success at the Victoria Palace on Monday, is booked solely by the V.B.O., of which Mr. J. L. Davis is general-manager.

Ludwig Amann, the clever facial mimic and impersonator, announces that he has appointed Mr. Will Collins as his sole business-manager.

Leeds and Lemar, Francini Olloms and Page, George Campbell, and Clara Moore sail on Saturday by the Balmoral Castle for South African engagements with Sydney M. Hyman, Ltd.

Messrs. Anger and Bauer and Karl F. Hooper are removing on Saturday next to more convenient offices at 102, Charing Cross-road (two doors from the Vaudeville Club).

The professional business of Pat, Doris, and Avice has been placed in the hands of Jack Goodson, Ltd., to whom all communications should be made.

Edie Veno and the Lane and Dale Trio left by R.M.S. Briton last Saturday to fulfil engagements on the Africa's Amalgamated Circut, and to-day Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Mann and Franks and the Brothers St. John for the same tour.

The Bros. St. John sail to-day per Balmoral Castle from Southampton to play the "Africa's Amalgamated Theatres." During their absence contracts will be attended to by Mr. Rufe Naylor, 41, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Mr. Sam Gething (Will Collins and Co.) accepted an invitation to the Royal Gallery on Monday last to witness the procession of the King and Queen to the House of Lords, which he describes as a memorable and impressive sight.

Hong Tong, a Chinese comedian of remarkable skill, is appearing, for the first time in England, at the London Hippodrome on Monday. He sings Rag-time in English and German. Rudinoff, the caricaturist, is also opening at the Hippodrome on Monday next. Both these attractive turns are appearing "through" the famous Marinelli Agency.

The sailings arranged by Daw's Steamship Agency are as follows:—Majestic, March 12, Dorsch and Russell, Gladys Laughlin, E. Wilson, E. Sellars; Carmania, March 16, M. Rose (of Marinelli's New York Office), Ethel M. Doyle, A. E. Cloke; Kaiserine Auguste Victoria, March 7, Max Blumberg; Demosthenes, April 3, to Cape Town, R. Halford Forster (a representative of the Quinlan Grand Opera Co.); Megantic, April 12, Edw. Hockey.

Mr. Chris Towler, who has thoroughly established the Birmingham Stage Agency, is getting a hustle on in the Midlands. He has organised an important circuit, covering an extensive area, and engagements for the biggest and smallest acts have been made through this agency. A few of the acts booked by him for this year are Irma Loraine and company, Rabottini's Band, Zella Vondi and company, the Dayton Family, Marie Santoi and company, Fred Conquest and company, Menetekel, Harry Rignold and company, Dort and Leonard, James Willard and company, Sharp's Tromboniers, and the Roland Brothers. He has also negotiated many important pantomime engagements for next season.

We hear that Will Collins and Co. are representing Rossi Ashton and the Lady Conductor.

Mr. H. R. Dean, assistant-manager at the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, has been appointed to assistant-manager at the Empire, Kingston.

"Jimmy" Glover and his Drury Lane band have been engaged to appear at the Kingston Empire next week.

The record to date of "Things one might have put differently" is surely held by a popular contemporary for its appreciation of a certain comedian's new song: "He should go a long way in the provinces."

The new act, "Rouge et Noir," to be produced at the London Pavilion, on Monday, conceals the identity of two exceptionally talented lady musicians, whose répertoire of old-time compositions is distinctly soothing in these days of raging ragtime.

Death, due to heart failure, was the verdict of a coroner's jury in the case of John Bertram Douglas, of Aston. The deceased, while conversing with the landlord in the Shareholders' Arms, Aston, fell to the floor, and expired before medical aid could be obtained. He had been a lion tamer at the Glasgow Zoo and Hippodrome.

A correspondent in his report of the sad occurrence in "The Stage" says: "Prior to his death Douglas had gone into private occupation. Singularly enough, on the day following his demise, he had an offer from the proprietor of a menagerie to resume his old profession." It would be interesting to know whether the offer reached the deceased lion-tamer by wireless.

The Yankee black-faced humorist, Frank Tinney, is entering upon the last weeks of his present engagement at the Palace, any further extension of his visit being impossible owing to contracts waiting fulfilment in America. No comedian from the United States has created heartier laughter than has Frank Tinney, and the conclusion of his stay at the Palace is regarded with regret. But there is to be an invasion of burnt-cork humorists from the other side. They are not likely to be as funny as Frank, who stands quite alone.

An occasional correspondent writes us:—"As an interested patron of the music halls, it has often struck me that there has been a remarkable scarcity of laughing comedians within recent years. Since the death of Jolly John Nash and Charles Pastor, and the absence from the variety stage of Florence Baines, the laughing song has been conspicuous by its absence. It's true, the laughing comedian was always rare, but that is no reason why we shouldn't have a few introduced into our variety programme of to-day. There is certainly nothing like a laughing song to get the house in a merry mood."

Ida Crispi and Fred Farren, whose dances have a cachet of their own, did not appear at the Tivoli on Monday evening. A deputy turn was found in the ever-popular pair, King and Benson, who were at the very height of their form in a diverting pot-pourri of comedy and song. Mike S. Whallen, who was billed, was also absent. His place in the programme was taken by the Johnnies (Guy and Grahame), a couple of droll and refined humorists, who have certainly established themselves as particular favourites at this hall. The remainder of the entertainment possesses a distinct American flavour, and ragtime runs riot. Each turn, however, contributes its full share to a highly interesting performance.

THE MAN IN THE STREET.

We are often told, both in print and in oral speech, that the opinion of "the man in the street" has to be taken into account before a definite judgment can be formed on any particular question that presents itself to the public mind for solution, elucidation, or even consideration. The phrase, "the man in the street," is rather a vague one in more than one respect, for it does not mean that the man must always be found on the pavements—it is equally applicable to a man who pays for admission to a theatre to witness a performance and who is entitled to give his opinion of the entertainment just as well as the leading critic of an influential daily paper. So that the phrase is more or less of an ambiguity, and actually means an individual not connected with, or interested in, the matter on which he expresses an opinion. But that is just the reason why the opinion of the man in the street is worth having, because it is manifestly unbiased, and hence of greater value than that of a person who may have an axe to grind. In fact, it is a phrase used to typify the mass of the general public—it is emblematic of opinion in the concrete. Therefore, we think the heading we have used this week is very apposite, for we have put the matter to the test in dealing with the reception accorded to Feldman's latest gem from the Irving Berlin mine, "When I lost you." Everybody who has heard this wonderful ballad—and at the moment it is being featured by a dozen front-rank artistes throughout these countries—acclaims it the best that has yet issued from the Arthur-street presses. It is the greatest song of sentiment ever presented to the British public—that is what "the man in the street" is saying, and he goes further and expresses the opinion that before the leaves assume autumnal tints the whole nation will be singing this enchanting ballad. Mr. Bert Feldman says of "When I lost you" that it is the greatest electrical hit on record, for its fame was made on a first-night presentation.

Success upon success emanates from the Feldman house, and those that have heard the latest creation of Irving Berlin, introduced at the Tivoli by two of America's greatest artistes, Messrs. Williams and Ayer, predict that these shores are destined to witness another epidemic such as that which Feldman caused in the last year or so. We are fully prepared within a very short time to see that this ear-haunting melody has gripped the public in a musical hand-clasp which will require a great effort to sever.

"Hullo, Rag-time," the great revue at the Hippodrome, which all London is going to see, and which is undoubtedly the most sensationally theatrical event of the season, is chockful of Feldman rag-time plums, which have contributed in a large degree to its wondrous success, and, in addition to these Feldman prize-winners, we understand that within the next few days no fewer than three new Feldman numbers are to be introduced. The same little bird whispers to us that the songs will be allotted as follows:—"Sumurun," sung by Miss Ethel Levey; "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam," rendered by Miss Shirley Kellogg; and "The baboon baby dance," which is to be entrusted to that inimitable comedian, Willie Solar. "Hullo, Rag-time" has been booming all the time since its first production; with its new equipment the boom must develop into a cannonade.

Back to Leeds, the city of her splendid pantomime success, Miss Ella Retford is playing a record week's engagement at the Hippodrome. This talented artiste is equipped with an entirely new répertoire of Feldman publications, together with her great pantomime triumph, "I want to be in Dixie." Like a magnet, she is drawing all Yorkshire, and her success is enormous. Miss Retford's new songs, of which we are promised great things by Mr. Bert Feldman, are "On the Mississippi," "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam," and "When the Henry Clay steams into Mobile Bay."

Ragged Raggers is another novelty that is increasing the popularity of Feldman's melodies in London, if it were possible to increase that popularity. At the Tivoli and the Oxford this wonderful troupe of violinists are carrying all before them. Their entire répertoire of popular songs is selected from the catalogue of Feldman's prize-winners, and in this respect they are following in the footsteps of quite a number of "stars" who attribute a great portion of their success to the fact that they relied solely on the choice items that the King of Music Publishers had issued, and whose advice they had followed in the matter of selection.

We understand that band parts are now ready for the season's sensation, "The wedding glide," which every band in the kingdom will shortly be making the choicest item in its programme. Under the circumstances, it would be highly advisable that application should at once be made to Messrs. Feldman for either the song or two-step orchestration.

Miss Florence Smithson, who is on the point of commencing an extensive music hall tour, and who has just concluded a highly successful panto. season as principal girl at old Drury Lane—the hub of pantomime—has arranged with the Feldman firm to supply her with all the numbers for her forthcoming production, which will be not only artistic but elaborate. Amongst many items Miss Smithson will feature the latest rage song, "When I lost you." Another artiste to rely entirely on the Arthur-street house output for her coming tour is Miss Winifred Hare.

Miss Kitty Colyer is another professional who is making an enormous success with Feldman's "On the Mississippi" and "You're my baby." The latter song is creating a veritable sensation wherever it is rendered, and it would seem as if it were about to become a worthy rival to that gem of gems, "Oh, you beautiful doll."

The Misses Pounds have taken by storm this week the habitués of that fine palace of music, the London Coliseum, by their artistic mimicry, and amongst their répertoire there is no choicer item than their delightful parody of Feldman's great number, "The Gaby Glide."

At Tottenham Palace this week "Alexander's Rag-time Band" is rendered in a unique manner, and one that is as clever in conception as it is artistic in presentation. The band is under the conductorship of Mr. Sheeman, a portion of the music being rendered in orthodox fashion with the band massed together, and another part is characterised by the segregation of the instrumentalists over several parts of the house, whilst the incidental dancing is done full justice to by a lady devotee of Terpsichore who bears a strong likeness to Miss Rosalie Jacobi. The performance is a most clever one, and the Tottenham theatre-going public appear to relish the peculiar presentation of the number in the very highest degree.

That splendid aggregation of coloured minstrels—the Real Rag-timers—are delighting the patrons of the Plymouth Palace this week with their choice répertoire of syncopated melodies. In this programme also the house of Feldman looms large, the company featuring several of the Arthur-street house tip-toppers, the choicest of which are, perhaps, "On the Mississippi" and "I want to be in Dixie."

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THE POINCIANA QUINTETTE.

Who has not been touched to the core by the melody of the canebrake and its crooning cadences. Musical folk in England became deeply interested in this delightful form of Folk Song more than thirty years ago, and our composers were always attracted by its rhythmical quaintness and its aloofness from the academically correct type of tune. But songs of the plantation can only be rendered in their fulness and beauty by the negro race, whose voices have that peculiarly pathetic timbre, that rich sonority that are essential to the creation of uncommon harmonies. Such were our reflections at a recent hearing of the Poinciana Quintette, a team of cultured coloured people, who have been imported by Mr. Alfred Butt from the States.

In their own country they appeared with gratifying success before ex-President Taft, at a notable dinner given by the multi-millionaire Edward McLean, and gained the reputation of being the greatest coloured singers in New York. At present that description applies exactly to their position in London, and Palace audiences have taken to them not only kindly but enthusiastically. They have a fine pianist, Chester A. Hawkes, who is one of the most sympathetic accompanists we have ever listened to; and their basso humorist, Charles B. Foster, is a dandy profundo singer with a voice that sinks to the depths of the lower B flat. There is a charming singer, too, in Mr. H. Sutton, and other clever darkies contribute to the excellent ensemble, the act having a most artistically draped setting. There is the distinctive quality of fun in Mr. C. B. Foster, whose interpolated remarks during the selection "Row, row, row," nightly provoke mirth. Mr. Foster is also responsible for the number "Woodman, Spare that Tree," to which Henry Russell wrote music many years ago. Mr. H. Sutton's lyric, "Dearest memories," has much of the haunting tunefulness of the negro ballad, and a rag-time finale, "Red rose rag," possesses an immense amount of spirit and liveliness. The Quintette have a répertoire of several hundred numbers, that reach from grand opera to rag-time, and they are able to syncopate feven Donizetti when they sing the sextette from "Lucia," in rag-time. They will not be going back to America just yet.

"THIS IS THE BUSINESS."

A Comic Episode, Produced for the first time at the Coliseum, Glasgow, on Monday, March 10.

Policeman Oxo .....Mr. W. Fullbrook
Sammy .....Mr. Joe Nightingale
Mrs. Giggleswick .....Mr. Arthur Stigant
Mr. Giggleswick .....Mr. Jim Laurie
Curate .....Mr. M'Kenzie
Mr. Did'em .....Mr. Syd Smith

The sketch is presented by Mr. Merson, and is founded upon two of the successful scenes from the Glasgow Royal pantomime. The plot reveals an amusing ejection scene which provides mirth-provoking situations that are fully taken advantage of by the well-chosen artistes who comprise the cast.

The production was well received by a large audience, and bids fair to have a very successful future. The scenery was specially painted by Mr. Dunn, and the staging leaves nothing to be desired.

Charles Coborn tells this story in the "Variety Man": "Pa, who was Shylock?" Paterfamilias (with a look of surprise and horror): "Great goodness, boy, you attend church and Sunday-school every week and don't know who Shylock was? Go and read your Bible, sir, at once."

After an extremely successful London season, Miss Millie Doris, the newly arrived Colonial comedienne, opened at the Tivoli, Manchester, on Monday, and if her Press notices may be taken as any criterion, she appears to be doing as well in Cottonopolis as she has done in town.

The Three Talents, fresh from their triumphs at the Hammersmith Palace, are at the Chelsea Palace this week, and their reception on Monday evening at the second house when our representative looked in augurs well for their future. Their act is as charming and artistic as it is talented, and the audience showed its appreciation in no uncertain manner on Monday evening.

Paris is now well under the sway of the Rag-time Emperor, though the gay capital is as strongly Republican as the rest of La Belle France. But then there is the entente cordiale to be considered, and when Great Britain capitulated to rag-time, how could our Gallic ally give syncopation the cold shoulder? Far from it. At the moment all Paris is flocking to the Alhambra (owned by the Variety Theatres Controlling Company of London) to be swayed by the insinuating rhythm of syncopation as presented by the Rag-time Six.

Another tribute to the obsessing character of syncopation is furnished by the attention which popular periodicals like "Tit-Bits" and "Answers" and "Pearson's Weekly" have of late been bestowing on Rag-time. One of the articles have gone the length of predicting that the craze for it in England is nearing a close, though all visible evidence is quite to the contrary; yet the fact of the subject being dealt with at all from any standpoint is strong testimony of the footing which the Feldman importation has secured in this country.

Several of the important weekly journals, too, perceiving the great rage that syncopation has really become, are now devoting pages of their space to the publication of rag-time songs and music. Chief amongst these is "Reynolds's Newspaper," which last week published the words and musical score of that Feldman ballad triumph, "Oh, you beautiful doll."

"My most amusing experience," says Mr. Geo. Leyton, who is appearing at the Manchester Hippodrome this week in his military production, "Lucknow," occurred during the South African war when I produced a military sketch at a North of England town. I had some difficulty in finding assistants to help me on the stage. At last I filled the cast with a local sweep, and a friend of his who was a cobbler. These two men had to play the part of Boer spies, who attacked me whilst I was defending a wounded comrade on the veldt, the signal for them to drop dead being two successive revolver shots. At the first performance I found myself protecting my wounded comrade, and in the darkness espied one of the enemy—the cobbler. At a shot the man dropped dead and lay stretched in full view of the audience. In turn a second Boer—the sweep—approached, but the signal shot went in vain. The man, instead of falling, simply reeled, recovered himself, and continued to approach. I fired a second shot, but not the least attention was paid to it, and as a last resource I used my sword, and made repeated thrusts at the sweep, but each time the man only reeled and returned to the attack. The sketch was spoiled, and the curtain lowered, and when I upbraided the sweep for not following out his instructions, he replied, "I thought you think you are going to shoot at me twice nightly for a week, and thrust a sword into my body six times for one-and-sixpence, you've made the biggest mistake in your life, guv'nor. I'll be 'aving any."

"A WOMAN IN THE CASE."

Shortened version of Clyde Fitch's Play, Produced at the Coliseum on Monday, March 10.

Margaret Rolfe .....Miss Nora Lancaster
Louis Klauffski ..... Mr. E. Dagnall
Thompson ..... Mr. Wm. F. Grant
Walters ..... Mr. Martin Henry
Claire Forster ..... Miss Violet Vanbrugh

Violet Vanbrugh in the part of a fascinating syren is no novelty to London playgoers. But it is an education in the art of limning Phryne in her desperation and abandonment to see her in the character of Claire Forster, in "A Woman in the Case"—a part that she played so powerfully at the Garrick and Duke of York's Theatres a year or two since. For the purposes of the variety stage Clyde Fitch's play has been reduced to one act, the third, the necessary explanations being introduced in a conversation between Walters, the faithful butler, and Thompson, the detective. It will be remembered that Margaret Rolfe, to establish her husband's innocence of the charge of murdering Philip Long—a charge that is made by the adventuress he (Rolfe) had foiled, viz., Claire Forster—lowers her womanhood to live for two months with that lurid demi-mondaine. Night after night Margaret has played the part of "friend" so well that she has not only disarmed the suspicions of Claire, but has gained her confidence—in a limited sense, however. Up to the opening of the third act there has been no confession of the fact that Philip Long shot himself, and that he did so in the presence of the woman whose vengeance will only be satiated by his judicial murder.

It is the evening before the trial. Margaret Rolfe, in her assumed name of Belle D'Arcy, entertains at her flat Claire Forster and her wealthy protector, Louis Klauffski. Another man, Jimmy O'Neill, a friend of Margaret's, is invited for the completion of the "partie carrée" at the champagne supper. Thompson, the detective, is in hiding in an adjoining compartment, to overhear the confession that Margaret Rolfe is straining every nerve to obtain. She cajoles, she flatters, she tempts the woman whose silence may send her husband to the gallows. She becomes the gay reveller, and talks of her past between libations of champagne, of which she takes care to drink but sparingly. No so the adventuress, whose heart has just been made glad by a huge cheque from Klauffski. She loses control of herself and reminisces. Gradually she is led up to the point of telling the story of that fateful night when the body of Philip Long was found shot through the head. At last the confession comes. Margaret Rolfe, like a tigress, grasps her enemy and thunders forth that she is the wife of the man whose innocence is now established. But Claire Forster has swooned and does not note the detective, who has heard all.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh's study of depravity of the higher grade sort is as powerful and convincing as it was when "A Woman in the Case" was produced at the Garrick in 1909, and nothing further need be added to the universal praise lavished upon the impersonation by the press. The surprise of the representation is Miss Nora Lancaster, whose Margaret Rolfe establishes her reputation as one of the most gifted of our younger actresses. She has always appealed to us by her grace and charm, but in her latest effort she touches a very powerful note of triumph, and the ill-concealed restraint of Margaret in her duel with the wary adventuress is a fine bit of acting. Miss Lancaster has a great chance, and she makes the very most of it. She should go far. Mr. E. Dagnall as the bon viveur, Klauffski, repeats his success in his original character. Mr. W. F. Grand is excellent as the detective, and Mr. Martin Henry is most effective as the butler. The furnishing of the flat is exquisite. The production is given by arrangement with Mr. Louis Meyer.

"SCALPED."

On Monday last, at the Palace, Bath, Mr. Ed. E. Ford and Mr. Harry Claff presented a new musical comedy playlet, entitled "Scalped," which was accorded a very gratifying reception at both houses. What little plot there is is centred around the character of Bobs, aptly described as a good fellow, who helps his pal and school chum, Charlie, over his engagement difficulties with Neva, the charming daughter of Professor Cruncher, an antiquarian, who is anxious that she should marry his nephew. Bobs, in his good nature to set affairs right for the young lovers impersonates James, a flunkey, and afterwards an Indian chief.

Mr. Ed. E. Ford as Bobs is the life and soul of this merry little piece, which abounds from start to finish in laughter-making situations. As the chief Mr. Ford has a chance of exhibiting his wonderful facial expression, and his success in the part was never for a moment in doubt. Charlie and Neva are admirably portrayed by Mr. Arthur Bravo, and Miss Dorothy Funstone, both of whom sing acceptably, and their duet, "I love you, I do," with its original chorus of ladies carrying miniature infants is capitally given. The professor is humorously enacted by Mr. Jack Bland, and his nephew from the East, a stage dude of the first water, is hit off by Mr. Arthur Ballard in a most whimsical fashion. There is also a bevy of young ladies, who add greatly to the general effect. An entirely new ballroom set is provided, and the ladies' dresses are elegant and in quite the latest fashion. The playlet was admirably produced by Mr. Frank Parker.

We understand "Scalped" is booked at most of the leading variety houses, and we feel sure the enterprise of Messrs. Ford and Claff will meet with the reward it deserves. Mr. Wm. Trussell, the managing-director of the house, especially came down from London to be present at the first performance, and he must have felt pleased at the reception the little musical piece was accorded.

MISS MABEL SINCLAIR AT HAMMERSMITH.

Miss Mabel Sinclair is presenting a novel ventriloquial scena at the Hammersmith Palace this week called "Flirting." The curtain rises on a very pretty scene, where the "dummy" (a little coster lad) is sitting on the tree trunk smoking. Miss Sinclair arrives on the scene by boat, and, of course, she and the "dummy" engage in some amusing conversation, the dummy singing one or two good numbers, including "My heart is with you to-night" and a difficult Swiss jodel. Whilst sitting there several people pass by—a soldier, a sailor, a park keeper, a young lady, and a little girl, and a dog also intrudes upon the scene, and the various remarks from the "dummy" at these "passers-by" are distinctly amusing. There is a slight thread of plot running through the whole "show" to bind each item together with a natural sequence, and it is quite up to date. Miss Sinclair has mastered the technique of the ventriloquial art, and her vocal mimicry is responsible for cleverly sustaining the illusion of conversations between the various characters she introduces. The production, which is quite unique in ventriloquial acts, should be a great success.

The Stoll Suburban Houses.—The most important engagements at the outlying Empires next week are Jen Latona, Rinaldo, and Helena Millais in "Silver Creek" (Hackney); Fragson, Olga, Elgar Eli Hudson, and Gus Elen (Shepherd's Bush); and Lester and Lorna and Toots Pounds (Chiswick) and the Six Brothers Luck and the Okabe (Wood Green).

"BUNGLE'S LUCK."

A WINNER FOR FRED KITCHEN.

Bungle has reached London, and will, we are certain, add immensely to the gaiety of that little village for a considerable period. He came to the Victoria Palace on Monday—came, saw, and conquered. Bungle's other name is Fred Kitchen, who is disguised as a convict in a broad-arrowed suit of dittoes, and goes through a host of adventures, each of which seems funnier than the last. It is Bungle's luck to be sent to gaol for a forgery committed by a military rogue, and it is also his luck to be mistaken—on his escape from prison—for a millionaire in disguise by the daughter of a duke, who announces her intention of marrying him in accordance with a wager made by the millionaire in question. All this happens in the first scene, the action of which takes places at a charity bazaar held in the grounds of Malton Towers. So bewildered is the gentle convict by the lavish attentions paid to him that he has considerable doubts as to the sanity of his newly-found friends, who think it an excellent joke when he tells them he has evaded the warders and got away. The merry little game of cross purposes goes on in the second scene, where Bungle has doffed his Majesty's prison uniform and appears in an Eton jacket suit several sizes too small for him. In this particular scene one is much amused by the rag-time chorus of policemen of assorted sizes—a number that does credit to the musical humour of Mr. Dudley Powell. In this the force undoubtedly scores a bullseye. There is a droll interview, too, between Bungle and a "copper," the latter, on receiving notes for thirty pounds, dropping on to the stage in a faint. This is a wonderful fall. Previous to Bungle's wedding in the third scene we listen to another striking number by Mr. Dudley Powell—a double sextet. The six ladies are costumed very daintily. Of course, Bungle's innocence would be established, were it not for the arrival of a pardon, brought by the millionaire, and the duke's daughter, who declares that she now loves Bungle for himself alone, sheds tears of joy on his yellow wedding waistcoat. The villain is confounded, and all ends up happily.

The sketch plays to one long laugh. We have no comedian with such mirthful resources as Kitchen, and he gives us a full measure of fun in every scene. He is only absent from the stage to make the changes of dress incidental to the plot of the piece. It is the force of comic expression that is such a factor with Fred Kitchen. He has the true *vis comica*. Every movement, every bit of business, has its value in the scheme of fun. It is comedy without fetters; it makes a broad appeal, and to its unrestraint may be traced its marvellous success. Its exemplar certainly gives a performance that is little short of a stroke of genius. Mr. Kitchen is loyally supported by a fine company, which includes: Misses Kate Forster, Belle St. Clement, D. Hermance, Madge Tours, Peggy Carthwright, Fortuna Morelle, E. Barr, Kitty Carlisle, Aggie Morris, Messrs. Charles Baldwin, Elmore Frith, J. E. Coyle, Harry Lappo, H. Piddock, Philip Sinclair, John Osborne, Gerald Smith, and Victor Stevens. The representatives of the gardener, the crying policeman, and the Eton boy specially distinguish themselves.

"LOLOTTE."

Comedy, in One Act, Adapted by John Pollock from the French of Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy, and Produced at the Coliseum on Monday, March 10.

Lord Feltham ..... Mr. J. Clifford Brooke
Lady Feltham ..... Miss Lilian Talbot
Sir Augustus Pett ..... Mr. Robert Horton
Maid ..... Miss Ethel Cannon
Manservant ..... Mr. Cadogan

"Lolotte," the French piece by Meilhac and Halévy, has always been a favourite with actresses on both sides of the English Channel. Lady Bancroft, Celine Chaumont, and Réjane have all played the title-rôle, and added to their reputations thereby, and now we may add to the number of successful impersonators of the French music hall star Mme. Lydia Yavorska (Princess Bariatinsky), who is making her first appearance at the Coliseum in the character. It is Lolotte's good fortune—in the newest version of Meilhac and Halévy's piece—to nip in the bud the *grande passion* of her fiancé for Lady Feltham. My lady, who is ambitious to play two rôles originally impersonated by the star, engages her services as instructor. The coaching imposed upon the ambitious amateur is quite amusing until Lolotte finds in a copy of the play being rehearsed a message in her lover's handwriting. She thereupon soundly rates Lady Feltham, and rises to the heights of passion just as Lord Feltham returns. The star, however, is much too good-natured to give the frail lady away, and saves the situation by declaring that that is the way madame should play her part. Madame Yavorska reveals a pleasing personality as well as a playful humour in her delineation, and makes the lesson a very finished one. She contrives also to suggest very cleverly in her exit the real nature of Lolotte, who is, with all her airs and graces, a woman of the people. Altogether it is a delightful performance. Miss Lilian Talbot, Mr. Clifford Brooke, who produces, Mr. Robert Horton, and Miss Ethel Gannon, with a clever impersonation of the maid, add to the success in other parts. Mme. Yavorska is beautifully gowned in a creation from Paquin's.

"MUM'S THE WORD."

For pure, unadulterated fun, "Mum's the Word," which was produced on Monday last at the Walthamstow Palace, would be hard to beat, and Mr. Edward Marris is to be congratulated on the success of his latest achievement. This new piece takes comparatively few minutes to play, but is so packed with laughter-provoking incidents one wonders what might be the result if the piece were extended into a three-act farce. The plot hinges on the extraordinary likeness of two men—apparently brothers—the old story of the two Dromios altered and brought up-to-date. Unfortunately, the complications are so numerous and distracting that it is impossible to do them justice in reasonable space. And, as the programme does not supply the names of the characters and actors, all one can do is to say that each of the sixteen selected members of the company works loyally and with irrepressible spirits to secure a success all round.

The resemblance between the two leading men is simply marvellous, and is well calculated to "bamboozle" the most observant spectator. All the other members of a good, all-round cast play well up to the two leaders, and the fun soon becomes fast and furious. Every member of the clever company, indeed, works with a will to attain the success undoubtedly scored by this non-stop laugh.

Always up-to-date, the management of the Chatham Empire were showing by eight o'clock on Monday evening some excellent Bioscope pictures of H.M. the King on his way to the opening of Parliament.

"My Sweetheart," an operatic comic drama, is to be staged in four scenes at the New Middlesex next week. The variety section will include Lydia and Amelys, Parisian whirlwind dancers; Campbell and Barber, trick cycling comedy duo; and Fred Shepherd, comedian.

ALEXANDER'S RAG-TIME BAND.

AT TOTTENHAM.

If able control counts for anything, then the Tottenham Palace should boom, for, in addition to the genial manager, Mr. Geo. Perry, and his able lieutenant, Mr. Gordon Harman, we met the Euston's chief, Mr. Pierre Cohen, there on Monday evening lending his valuable help and advice. "First appearance in England of Alexander's Rag-time Band" said the bills, and, as with the hen and the egg, we wondered which came first, the song or the band. But such side thoughts were banished when the curtain rose, for the band, conducted by Patrick Sheeman, compelled our whole attention. After playing a medley of rag-time they gave us Rubinstein's Melody in F and Mendelssohn's Spring Song, all in syncopated time. Following this we were amused by a kind of shadow pantomime, showing the bandsmen rushing forward, and apparently leaping to the flies. The last shadow to appear was that of the conductor and as he raised his baton, lo! rag-time broke out from every part of the house, the band having placed themselves everywhere except upon the stage. Finally, we saw the shadows once again on their return; then up went the curtain, and the back of the stage was a great sheet of giant music. A charming lady, whom we think we recognised as Miss Rosalie Jacob, tripped on singing more rag-time, and as the chorus was repeated a number of merry black faces emerged from the "notes" on the curtain and took up the refrain. Truly a splendid act to appeal to the popular fancy, well deserving the gratifying reception accorded it.

King and Benson are here in their messenger boy act, and going great with their delightful singing and comedy; and Mr. Harry Marlow is a light comedian with a powerful voice and a breezy style, who has that gift of personality which gets right across the footlights. Added to this he has some smart songs, notably "The Insurance Act," which is creating a veritable furore here this week.

Doris Hunter sings well and dances excellently. Geo. Ross is as clever and funny as ever at the piano. Marie Brayman, looking brilliantly imposing in a smart principal boy costume, used her powerful voice to decided advantage. Alexandre and Hughes give their always popular and enjoyable act; and Nino-Nina, acrobatic dancers; Margaret Dempsey, of the delightful voice, who gives a high-class performance, assisted by her sister Helena; Harry Wenburn, a capital comedian; and the Bioscope complete.

For either Tuesday or Thursday of next week (exact date not settled as we go to press) a special benefit is announced for Mr. Geo. Raymond (of the Bros. Raymond), who fractured his ankle at the Charity Football Match last week.

SCOTT MEMORIAL FUND MATINEE.

A special matinée was held at the Surrey on Friday afternoon last, the entire proceeds being given to the Scott Memorial Fund. Many well-known artistes appeared, Alf. Chester, early in the afternoon, being applauded for a capital comic song, in the character of a policeman. "Then I turned my lantern down." Especial favourites were the Three Rascals, the audience apparently never tiring of their rag-time contributions. "The Robert E. Lee," "Dixie Land," "On the Mississippi," and other favourite numbers were included in this exhilarating turn, and the reception of the "rascals" was most gratifying. Rag-time also figured in the interlude given by Scott and Whaley, a couple of popular darkey comedians who sing, dance, and indulge in much humorous cross talk, and who were altogether responsible for a most diverting quarter-of-an-hour. Charles Whittle's chorus-song was greatly to the liking of the audience; Dutch Daly drolly rattled off a few stories, and, of course, played the concertina as only he can, to the delight of all; Henri Cazman did some neat card-palming; Mr. Eric Mayne's expressively delivered recitation was keenly enjoyed; Leonard Lorrimore gave a skilful dancing exhibition; the smart song and dance of Miss Vera Saunders found many admirers; and others in the long and alluring programme who appeared—or were programmed to appear—included the Dancing Middies, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Marie Kendall, Billy Williams, Harry Weldon, Flora Cromer, Florence Yaymen, Wheeler and Berkeley, Esta Stella, Vasco, Steve M'Carthy, King and Benson, and Ella Shields.

The Four Mystic De Kolzas with their original illusory show have been doing record business all over the country. They have added several new items, and the show will soon be seen in London.

There are at least two Army officers on the variety stage, and two more joined the ranks of entertainers on Monday, when Captain Arthur Wood, son of Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood, and Captain Henry Green, D.S.O., appeared at the Aldershot Hippodrome as "The Two Captains—musical and humorous entertainers." Both officers are taking up the variety stage as a profession, and, although they have appeared at concerts and other entertainments in the past, Monday night was their first appearance together in a music hall.

Captain Arthur Wood and Captain Henry Green are life-long friends. They were educated together at Beaumont College and Sandhurst. Later they were commissioned in the Scottish Rifles, and both served in the South African war under General Lyttelton. They were present at Spion Kop and the relief of Ladysmith. The names of the two officer-artistes were simply described on the programme as "Arthur Wood and Henry Green," and when the curtain rose on No. 7 "turn" few people in the audience were aware of the identity of the two vocalists in evening dress.

Captain Arthur Wood sat at the piano, and his brother officer stood close by. The performance opened with a duet, both men possessing fine tenor voices. Captain Green studied singing in Paris. The music hall stage is democratic, and though "rank" is no offence, aristocratic influence is of little use. "The Two Captains" will be judged entirely on their merits. Let 'em all come.

"UP IN THE AIR" AT ISLINGTON.

Playlet, by Stanley Dark and William Kirby, Produced at the Empire, Islington, on Monday, March 10.

Jack Denton .....Guy Fane
Rev. Sentimus Writley .....Geo. Barnard
Policeman .....Arthur Brown
Mrs. Griggs .....Elsa Hall
Emily Griggs, her Daughter ....Ivy Burton

It must be admitted that Messrs. Stanley Dark and William Kirby, the authors of the above playlet, which was presented on Monday at the Empire, Islington, have made a courageous attempt to get off the beaten track, and they are by no means unsuccessful. Jack Denton is the inventor of an apparatus by which human beings can transport themselves through the air at will. On the rise of the curtain, after a loud smash, the inventor is discovered mixed up with a broken table, which is the result of an unexpected fall while practising in his room. The landlady enters and proceeds to make herself unpleasant about matters generally, particularly as to her lodger's unpaid bill and his attentions to her daughter. She gives him notice to quit, and on his attempting to convince her that his invention is an accomplished fact, he lands on top of her. The lady then changes her mind and announces her intention of giving him in charge for attempted murder. The daughter then enters and is instructed in the art of flying, and on the return of the mother they both get hold of her and take her up in the air and force her to give her consent to the wedding. As soon as she reaches terra firma again she rushes out for assistance. On the entry of Writley, the inventor's friend, who is a clergyman, both he and the lovers ascend, where the marriage ceremony takes place. No sooner has this been completed when sounds of people approaching are heard, and the happy pair depart through the window on their honeymoon.

The show itself wants a little brightening up and the action should be much brisker. Mr. Guy Fane as Jack Denton was excellent as the inventor. Mr. George Barnard as the clergyman was adequate in a small part. Miss Ivy Burton was an attractive Emily Griggs, the daughter; and Miss Elsa Hall as Mrs. Griggs gave a capital character-study. The trifle was well received.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

A very fine programme is being presented here this week, and good business is being done. Dora Hawtry, a singer of chorus songs, has two numbers which she sings with taste. Her first, "There's as good fish in the sea," is a particularly catchy ditty, and the chorus of her second contribution, "Don't be late in the morning," is quickly taken up by the audience. Charles Dent has some amusing patter and a good song in "Come amongst us." The Duracs, an extremely clever couple, are deputising for the centre of the bill. The gentleman is an expert piano player and the lady has a voice which possesses great charm. Their combined efforts in a rendering of "The Lost Chord" bring down the house. Their fine voices are blended with extreme taste, and the organ and piano accompaniment add a decided finish to an act which is deserving of the warmest praise. Miss Cissie Fredericks makes the most possible out of her song, "Honesty is the best policy"; and Miss Vena Valma shows considerable versatility, and is a refined artiste, who gives complete satisfaction. She describes, in song, the mannerisms of ladies of different nations and dances with much skill.

Smit and Smit are two wonderfully clever artistes on the horizontal bar. They are funny in the extreme, and, at the same time, their performance shows marked dexterity. Mr. Eddie Walker supplies a humorous portrayal of a private inquiry agent, and in his song, "Sanitas, the detective," he raises roars of laughter. Arthur's Eight Model Maids are a bevy of beauties, who delight with song and dance. They have some pretty numbers, which they tastefully render, and their dancing is quite a special feature of their performance. Some rag-time songs are introduced, with the customary rag-time dances. Their efforts are much appreciated. Mr. Fred Douglas is an artiste who pleases beyond all doubt. Rag-time music is a speciality with him and in this he excels. Sam Lowenwirth and Charles Cohan are so well known to frequenters of the variety halls that little about them need be said, beyond the fact that the audience are heartily laughing during the whole time they occupy the stage. They are certainly a great attraction.

Mr. Otto Minster and company present "The Sky Pilot," an American dramatic episode of great interest. The piece is well staged, and the acting is of a high standard of excellence. Mr. Otto Minster supplies a powerful impression of the title-rôle, and Miss Vashti Wynne plays with feeling and considerable skill as Jess. Some excellent pictures conclude this attractive programme. The resident-manager, Mr. Oscar Berry, is tactful and attentive, and he has the capable assistance of Ben Woodger.

Prof. Earle, conjurer, desires to thank Mr. Neil Kenyon for his kindness in defraying the entire funeral expenses of Wee Johnnie Rodie, who died in Westminster Hospital on Saturday last, and was buried on Thursday. The arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. R. Dunkley.

The booking is already very heavy at the Coliseum for the Good Friday evening concert, organised by Mr. Alfred Dove, the musical-director. The programme now includes Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Nancy Price, Miss Evie Greene, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, and other prominent artistes.

The powerful one-act play, "The Saint and the Sinner," which had its première at the Euston a fortnight ago—and with which the Australian artistes, Mr. Alfred Woods and Miss Maud Williamson, scored such an emphatic success upon their first appearance—has been well booked by the London halls, including the Syndicate. It will commence a tour at East Ham on Monday. South London Palace follows on the 24th.

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ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

PRELLES' BIJOU CIRCUS AT THE KINGSTON EMPIRE.

One of the most unique performances ever given at Kingston was presented by Prelles' Bijou Circus. M. Prelles is the possessor of a number of dogs of remarkable sagacity. Some of them, wearing cleverly devised masks, play the parts of ponies in a circus quite successfully. Two of them, dressed up to represent a girl and a boy (masks making all the difference) are made to play the principal parts in a ventriloquial entertainment, in which it is difficult to tell whether the subjects are dogs or dummies. There is also a scene—a well-painted and ingeniously designed one—with highwaymen and a mail coach, in which dogs play the principal parts.—"The Era," March 8, 1913.

"DESPERADO DABBS."

Dramatic Farce, by Herbert C. Sargent, Produced on Monday, March 10, at the Empire, Shoreditch.

Dabbs .....Mr. Harry Roxbury
Carl Astler .....Mr. Charles Groves
Lieutenant Jessop, R.N. ..Mr. Harold Maligny
Norah Jessop .....Miss Hilda Glynn
Celeste .....Miss Rita Sponti

In "Desperado Dabbs" Mr. Herbert C. Sargent has succeeded in giving to the music hall stage that "rara avis" a distinct novelty. The skilful combination of really strong situations with broad comedy is much to the taste of the audience, and that resourceful comedian, Mr. Harry Roxbury, revels in the many opportunities offered in the part of Dabbs, the little Cockney house-painter, who is mistaken for the Secret Service emissary of a foreign Power.

The plot revolves around the efforts of a foreign spy to gain possession of some drawings of a new naval gun. The inventor, a naval lieutenant, is staying in a London hotel. The spy has obtained a situation as a waiter so that he may have free access to the lieutenant's suite of rooms, and his accomplice, a lady's maid, is engaged in the service of the lieutenant's wife.

They have been warned by the head of the Secret Police that another spy will be sent to assist them, and the appearance of Dabbs at the window, where he is busy at his work as a painter, and his inadvertently giving the countersign of the Secret Service, leads the conspirators to mistake him for their expected accomplice. After exciting adventures Dabbs saves the drawings, which have been stolen by the spy, but is himself accused of the theft.

His Cockney wit is pitted against the craft of the foreign spies, and his unexpected triumph when things seem at their worst is keenly appreciated. How this consummation is arrived at must be seen to be adequately realised.

A noticeable feature of this "dramatic farce" is that the humour is always subservient to the characterisation. Although Dabbs is the hero of many broadly farcical situations, he is always the little house-painter, and in Mr. Roxbury's hands he is a "living picture" of the British workman—not too fond of work, but a "real good sort" when his national pride and pluck are aroused.

MR. JAMES A. WATTS.

A BURLESQUE ACTOR.

Such would be the stock description of Mr. James A. Watts, who, after a rousing success in the pantomime "Tommy Tucker," at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, came to the Coliseum on Monday, and made his début as a variety artiste. Without being loquacious, Mr. Watts is what may be termed a fluent gagger, but he also has that first requisite of the parodist—a keen perception of the ridiculous side of things. This is to be specially observed in his travesty of the lady ballad singer, and his scales, trills, and roulades sent the audience into fits on Monday. But the bonne-bouche of his performance is his burlesque of classical dancing, called "Rendalsong's Song Spring"—in which we may incidentally remark there is no lack of side spring—and Mlle. Annallenmaudlapova." A gentle "nymph," indeed, is James. He dances with delicious angularity to the strains of Chopin, Schumann, or Mendelssohn, and "flops" in the accepted way. He exploits the true Maud Allen trot—nothing of Turkey about this—and it is a sight for the gods to see him run into the Pavlova Bacchanale with a freedom and energy, from which the spirit of burlesque is never absent. Mr. Watts came, was seen, and his conquest was decisive. We ought to see a great deal of him in London, for he is a most original humourist.

MR. C. W. RAMSAY'S BENEFIT.

During his twelve years' sojourn in Sheffield Mr. C. W. Ramsay, the acting-manager of the Alexandra Theatre, has endeared himself to all classes of the community by his sound business methods, unfailing courtesy, and lovable disposition. It was therefore not surprising that the big theatre was packed from pit to gallery on March 6, when Mr. Ramsay took his ninth complimentary benefit. The performance was under the patronage of the Right Hon. C. B. Stuart Wortley, K.C., M.P., Sir Joseph and Lady Jonas, Mr. J. Fitzalan Hope, M.P., Mr. Samuel Roberts, M.P., Sir Herbert Tree, and other notabilities. A first-rate programme was gone through by the following artistes: Mr. Charles Locke's company, in an act from "One Life, One Love"; the Three Cape Girls and Mr. Lloyd Morgan (from the Empire), the Eight Courtiers (from the Hippodrome), the skating bear (from Bostock's Jungle), George Urquhart and Wm. Mackenzie (the pipers of the Scottish Club), the Sholto Carmalyo Concert Party, Young Harrigan, Jerry Hayes, Johnny Watson, Bob Walker, the Grimesthorpe Prize Brass Band, Miss Addy Lade, Farron Sumner, Oliver Conroy, jun. ("A Chip off the Old Block"), Billy Raines, Albert Bagshaw, Jack Alton, Arthur Wormsley, Albert Hather, James Watson, Walter Holden and Young Brum (in a boxing bout), and Miss Jessie Lindsay. The stage was under the direction of Messrs. Charles Locke and Mr. J. L. Barry.

When Mr. Ramsay came on to make his annual address the applause was long and enthusiastic, and his well-chosen words—delivered with characteristic modesty—were punctuated with hearty cheers and friendly remarks. Many presents were handed up, including a cheque from Mr. Forsdike, the managing-director, cheques from several touring-managers, a carriage clock, cigarette and cigar holders, silver and cut-glass saltcellars, gold sleeve-links, cases of razors, silver biscuit-jar, boxes of cigars, and many other tokens of appreciation from the orchestra, staff, and patrons of the theatre. The popular beneficiaire was again loudly cheered on leaving the stage, and the festive evening finished with the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," in which the audience joined with all sincerity.

The Musical Palmers (Five M.P.'s), after an absence of four years from London, are this week appearing at the Clapton Rink Cinema, being specially engaged by Mr. Andrew Robertson, in place of his celebrated concert party. It is evident from the enthusiasm displayed that their old Hackney friends have not forgotten them.

M.H.A.R.A. DINNER AND DANCE.

A FESTIVE FUNCTION.

The concord and unity which exist between the variety profession and the railway world was further cemented on Sunday, when that ever-popular event the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association dinner and dance was celebrated at the Criterion Restaurant. Though the function was run on Party lines, there was no Opposition, and good Government prevailed throughout. The tables were divided into sections, and there were parties of Water Rats, parties of Terriers, and private parties, Miss Lottie Albert's party numbering seventy-seven.

The popular Mr. Joe Elvin presided, and had Mrs. Elvin on his right, while close by were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tate. Mr. Charles Austin, to everyone's regret, was prevented by illness from being present. About 190 sat down to dinner, among those who attended being Mr. Harry Freeman, Mr. Harry Masters, Mr. Harry Blake, Mr. Syd Walker, Miss Irene Rose, Miss Lottie Albert, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coborn, Mr. E. H. Lucas, Mr. Leon Zeitlin, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Were, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Weldon, Miss Violet Folland, Mr. Fritz Millar, Jack and Evelyn O'Connor, Mrs. O'Connor and party, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gilbey, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lynn, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Lester, Mr. and Mrs. Max Fuller Golden, Mr. and Mrs. Josh Alexandre, Miss Margaret O'Key, Mr. Tom Packer, Mr. Sam Poluski, jun., Mr. Frank Lunnon (Great Northern Railway), Kasrac, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Best, Mrs. Bancroft, Mr. Harry Bancroft, Miss Rose Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. Dunkley, Mr. F. H. White, Mrs. Hardinge-Johnson, Miss Midge Johnson, Mr. Frank Fisher, Mr. Deane Tribune, Mr. Claude Stuart, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), Mr. Chas. Gage and party, Hall and Earle, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Osborn, Miss Ettie Osborn, Miss Annie Hyman, Mr. Bernard Kohn, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Farleigh, Miss Millie Payne, Mr. Thurston, Mr. H. Judge, Mr. Algy Abrahams and party, Mr. and Mrs. Letta, Mr. and Mrs. Kasrac and party, Miss Belle Alva and Mrs. Alva, Mr. Arrons and party, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sergeant, Mr. and Mrs. Macgillivray, Miss Ethel Macgillivray, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Webb and party, Mr. Charman and party, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Baker, Miss Susan Hartley, Miss Ada Blaine, Miss Zella Vondi, Laroli, Mr. Walter Tilbury, Mr. Fred Herbert, Mr. Jack Harris, Mr. Harry Gribben. The professional Press was represented by Mr. Edgar White ("The Era"), Harris ("Performer"), E. Samsom (the "Stage"), A. Dunbar (the "Encore"), J. Marks (the "Referee"), and Chas. Coborn ("Variety Man"). The following agents of the Association were present: Mr. Bert Wilson (Birmingham), Mr. Fred Wood (South Shields), Mrs. Rosser (Cardiff), Mr. A. Walstow (Colchester) and party, Mr. Fred Hermon (Doncaster) and party, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Barham (Ipswich) and friend, Mr. A. Fisher (Wishaw), Mr. Percival (Wisbech), Mr. and Mrs. H. Porter (Felixstowe), Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Boulton (Oxford), Mr. A. C. Gardner (Oldham) and party, and Mr. J. Cowey (Brighton).

THE TOASTS.

The esteem in which Mr. Elvin is held was shown by the ovation he received when he rose to propose the loyal toast, and it drew from him the remark, "I didn't go like that last week at Balham!" With regard to the King, the Queen, and the Royal Family, he could only say "God bless them. May they long be spared to reign over us."

A WORTHY CHARITABLE RECORD.

Then came the toast, "The Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association," proposed by the chairman. I rise with pleasure to propose this toast, he said, more especially as last month the Association attained its sixteenth anniversary. It has made very great headway, and the membership is still increasing. As you know, the profits made by the M.H.A.R.A. go to charity—half to the Railway Orphanage and half to the music hall charities. During its sixteen years' existence the Ladies' Guild, the Music Hall Home, and the Benevolent Fund and Institution have received handsome donations. It is only just over twelve months ago since Mr. Joe O'Gorman, I am proud to say, proposed that half-a-crown per member should be charged on each green card, and during the year that has yielded the magnificent sum of over £800. Only last month it realised £80—£20 for four weeks. I am very pleased to say that that £800 and £80 go towards the upkeep and support of the Music Hall Institution, where we have the dear old performers spending their declining days in comfort, as happy as you like in the little home at Twickenham. But for the M.H.A.R.A. it would not be kept going, and every one of the members of the variety profession should be proud of their Association. (Cheers.)

THE CONCESSION PRESERVED.

The trouble last year in the labour world resulted in the free truck being taken away. We are considering the best means of approaching the directors again, and the free truck may be restored. Owing to the coal strike we nearly lost the three-quarter concession, but our friends in the railway, who, I am delighted to say, always do their best for us, interested themselves with the directors of the various companies, and we still retain the concession. (Cheers.) I sincerely hope we shall retain it for years and years, if only for the sake of the poorer struggling artiste. (Hear, hear.) We are a very nice happy party, and I thank you all for coming here. I thank very much Miss Lottie Albert, the hon. treasurer of the Ladies' Guild, who, I may tell you, has taken a lot of trouble over this function, and sold over a hundred tickets, for which I congratulate her.

DISTINGUISHED RODENTS.

I am grateful, too, to my brother Water Rats for the way in which they have supported me. I am sorry, however, to inform you that I have just got a wire from Charley Austin, who is laid up with gastritis. We all wish our King Rat a speedy recovery. (Applause.) The immediate past King Rat, Harry Tate, is on my left. (Cheers.) He is one of our very best—always there when wanted. I have on my right the first King Rat, Mr. Harry Freeman, one of the most loyal to the Order. I drink success, prosperity, and long life to the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association. (Cheers.)

TELEGRAMS.

In the absence of Mr. J. W. Cragg the toast was acknowledged by Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, who prefaced his speech by reading a number of telegrams.

Mr. Charley Austin wired: "Sorry impossible to be with you to-night. Very ill in bed with gastritis. My disappointment is only equalled by the pain I am in. Trusting everybody will have a delightful time, fondest love to you, Joe.—Yours fraternally, Chas. Austin, King Rat."

Mr. Eugene Stratton wired: "Very sorry cannot be with you, much as I should love to. Continued success to M.H.A.R.A. and the Institution that you so nobly founded. God bless you and yours and the music hall profession."

Mr. Albert Voyce expressed himself in rhyme thus:—

"May joy attend your feast and ball,
Good luck to Rats and Terriers all."

Mr. Barrow, of the L. and S.W. Railway, wired: "Much regret unable to turn up to-night. Cold worse. Hope you have enjoyable time."

Other telegrams regretting absence were sent by Mr. Arthur Gallimore, Mr. David Crombie, Mr. Stanley Damerell, and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cowper.

"FRIENDS AT COURT."

Mr. Stuart said: "On behalf of the officers and committee I thank you for the cordial manner in which you have drunk the toast. As Mr. Elvin, our most worthy president, has told you, we are a very large family, over 7,000 strong. Of course some for various reasons drop out and do not renew their cards, but we have always new ones to take their place, and without advertising or canvassing we often have fifty or sixty new members a week. Why? Because they hear from other artistes of the large amounts saved and the great benefits obtained by being members of the M.H.A.R.A. We passed through a very troublous period in our history last year, when the concession was within an ace of being withdrawn, but, thanks to kind friends at court, we were permitted to retain our grand privilege of three-quarter fare, which we sincerely trust will now never be taken away. The members may rely upon the committee and officers being ever watchful of their interests, ever keen to gain new benefits and increase the success and prosperity of our splendid Association. (Applause.)

THE RAILWAY TOAST.

The toast of "The Railway Companies and Their Theatrical Representatives" was proposed by Mr. Arthur Were. He said: If I were to encourage the predominant mania of the year, I should propose this toast in rag-time—"Railway Rag-time," but as I have to maintain the dignity peculiar to secretarial martyrs at committee meetings, I will refrain from attempting what in any case would be a deplorable imitation of the "Grisly Hug." (Laughter.) The work of the railway companies' theatrical representatives is one of paramount importance to the variety profession. Without the facilities afforded by the railway companies it would be impossible for a performer to "top the bill" at a one-turn picture palace at Ballyhooly, or to enjoy the picturesque beauty spots in Wigan and the natural beauties in Derby. Artistes must realise that they should always endeavour to facilitate the work of the railway officials, and inflict their petty and supposed grievances on your amiable secretary, Mr. Douglas Stuart, whose office is ornamented with a capacious wastepaper basket. (Laughter.)

We owe a debt of gratitude to the railway representatives, many of whom have done us the honour of being present this evening, and we are grateful to them for the innumerable favours and kindnesses we receive at their hands. We trust that the good feeling existing between the representatives and the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association will be a permanent feature of the vaudeville profession.

These gentlemen devote much time and labour to making your journeys less wearisome, and to endeavouring to meet your indelicate hints for more concessions, and I am quite sure, were it in their power, they would willingly provide you with special saloon-bar carriages and with drinks, free of cost.

AN ALL-AMERICAN MATINEE.

No doubt the "American invasion crowd" will take full advantage of the benefits of membership of the M.H.A.R.A., and being, according to the papers, noted for their sobriety, will become acquainted with the prehistoric bath bun and glass of milk, and I venture to suggest to those who successfully evade "getting the bird," that it would be a graceful act upon their part if they were to give an "All-American Turns" matinée, in aid of the railway charities and the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Institution.

We regret exceedingly the absence of Mr. W. Simpson, of the G.W.R., owing to the illness of his wife, and we wish her a speedy recovery. (Hear, hear.) Ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege, on behalf of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, to extend a hearty welcome to the railway companies' theatrical representatives, and to ask you to drink their healths, coupled with the name of Mr. Frank Lunnon, of the Great Northern Railway.

Mr. Lunnon, in reply, said it was most gratifying to hear the toast of "The Railway Companies" so kindly proposed and received, and on their behalf he thanked them. Artistes evidently still had a warm place in their hearts for the railway companies, although they occasionally charged them excess and ran an hour late into the bargain. (Laughter.) In wishing the Association continued success, he took the opportunity of thanking the secretary, Mr. Douglas Stuart, for his never-failing energies and courtesy in assisting the railway representatives in their work. He was at the first dinner of the Association at the Variety Club in 1901, and had never missed one since. So long as they were good enough to invite him, they might rely upon it that he would be there. (Cheers.)

KINDRED SOCIETIES.

Mr. Charles Coborn proposed the toast of "Kindred Societies." It was a voluminous toast he said, in which the Water Rats came first, and after that the Variety Artistes' Federation. That was quite in keeping, because it was reasonable to believe that if it were not for the Water Rats, the finest social organisation of music hall artistes he believed that ever existed, there might possibly have been no V.A.F. at all. When the time came influential members of the Water Rats rose to the occasion and took the lead, and the result was found in an organisation with £10,000 behind it, which meant power, and, if necessary—though happily there was no necessity—the most powerful fighting force the music hall profession ever knew. The V.A.F. and the Water Rats were absolutely inseparable. There was another social body—the Terriers. The Terriers they knew were after the Rats—(laughter)—but up to now they had not caught them. He wished them every success in their pursuit, and recommended them plenty of Spratt's biscuits, because they had got a long way to go. With regard to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, he was in great danger, because the lady who shared more than half his property was a vice-president of the Guild. Imagine his situation when he got home if he did not say something eulogistic! They all welcomed the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and recognised most heartily the strong hold they had on the interests of the profession. It was one of the most valuable institutes the music hall industry ever knew. He was surprised when he learnt of the amount of relief they extended to poor people. Then there was the Music Hall Institution working in harmony with the others. It was very gratifying that they should have such a meeting as that that night. If their institutions went on growing and growing as they did, they would in a year or two want the Albert Hall.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. Harry Tate, who had a tremendous reception. "All I can say," he said, "is to regret that King Rat is absent to-night. He is, in fact, very ill. In his behalf I have to thank you. Mr. Elvin knows that the Rats' support to him is from the heart. I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Water Rats, and wish King Rat a speedy recovery."

Mr. Harry Freeman also responded. He said it was true he had the honour of being first King Rat, and very proud he was of having filled that position. The Water Rats' order at its inception only numbered a few, and gave little indication of the fine future before it. It was established as a social society, but it had its serious side, of which it might well be proud.

Mr. Syd. Walker responded as vice-president of the Terriers. "We Terriers," he said, "take a great interest in the M.H.A.R.A., because we look upon it as our baby, as the great majority of the Terriers were among its founders. Let me assure Mr. Coborn, and other ladies and gentlemen, we are not making a race with the Water Rats. We were only formed for the betterment of the music hall profession. Whenever you call upon us for help, either for the improvement of the profession or in the glorious cause of charity, which you, Mr. Chairman, have so much at heart, we are yours, now and always." (Cheers.)

THE GOOD WORK OF THE FEDERATION.

Replying on behalf of the Variety Artistes' Federation, Mr. Fred. Herbert said Mr. Coborn had rightly described the Federation as the fighting-if-necessary portion of the variety profession. The Federation was further than ever it was, and had good funds at its back should trouble arise, which he hoped and trusted never would. Much of the work of the Federation was never known outside the offices of the organisation until they saw the cases in the papers that they fought and invariably won. Many cases were brought under the consideration of their diplomatic chairman, who generally settled them amicably. It was a great pity members could not know a little more about the work of the society, which existed not so much for fighting purposes as to settle all differences between manager, agent, and artiste in the way they should be settled. People outside the ranks of the Federation received the same benefits as those who had fought and bled for them. He urged them to come inside the Federation and strengthen its ranks, in order that, should trouble arise, they would be banded together to meet it.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

Miss Irene Rose replied for the Ladies' Guild, which she said was doing very well. The number of the committee was rising rapidly. The more they had on the committee, the larger their funds, and the wider their scope for doing good. They were indebted to the M.H.A.R.A. for many favours and for handsome donations.

AN APPEAL FOR THE FUND.

Mr. Harry Blake replied for the Fund and Institution. He said that while the 2s. 6d. derived from the green cards served for the upkeep of the Institution, it did not provide for the outdoor relief in the way of assisting the poorer artistes to go to their engagements. He would like to see some plan formulated to make the Fund more self-supporting. They used to ask for donations at that dinner, but that was discontinued in view of the function specially arranged last year, when Earl Winterton took the chair. However, a week-night was chosen for the event, and that proved unfortunate. He would be delighted to get suggestions from anyone, whether in the profession or out, by which the funds might be increased. They gave away on an average £25 to £30 a week, 5s. a week being given to many old artistes who were under the age of seventy, and therefore not eligible for the Government pension. There were a number of old professionals on their books who had no relief in any shape or form except what they got from the Benevolent Fund. It was suggested by Mr. Albert Voyce that a penny each be charged for letters received at the various halls, a system adopted by the commercial travellers, which realised over £7,000 a year. He did not think it would work in the music hall profession, because when they went to get their letters there was no one to collect the pennies, and it was rather discouraging to find, after all, that the letter for which they had paid a penny was only a moneylender's circular. He advised those present who had not been down to Twickenham to go at the first opportunity. It might be the means of loosening some of their purse strings. They had five acres of ground, and grew their own fruit and vegetables.

VISITORS AND PROVINCIAL AGENTS.

This toast was proposed by Mr. E. H. Lucas, who said they were delighted to have the visitors in such very large numbers. He hoped they would thoroughly enjoy themselves and go home in company with the milkman resolved to come next year. They were specially glad to see Miss Lottie Albert's party of personal friends, and sincerely thanked her for bringing them with her to assist in making this function a success; also Mr. Jack O'Connor, Miss Rose Bancroft, Mr. Dunkley, and Mr. Gage. They were no less pleased to see important representatives of the managerial and agency branches of the profession. They liked to see them present at their play, as well as at their work. As to their very good friends, the provincial agents of the M.H.A.R.A., he was sure the members of the Association thanked them sincerely for coming long distances to be present, even from Wishaw, in Scotland, and South Shields. There were more agents present this year with their friends than ever before. They did their work as their agents, and in a large town it was no light job; they did it well, and very few complaints reached the committee. He gave them "Long Life and Happiness to Their Visitors," coupled with the names of Mr. Leon Zeitlin and Mr. Harry Masters, and "The Provincial Agents," coupled with the names of Mr. Tom McKay, of the branch office at Liverpool; Mr. Bert Wilson, their Birmingham agent; and Mr. Fred Wood, of cycling fame, from South Shields.

Mr. Leon Zeitlin, in acknowledging the toast, congratulated everybody connected with the business on the cordial relations at present existing between managers and artistes, and hoped they would long continue.

A response also came from Mr. Bert Wilson, who said he was one of their oldest agents, and could testify to the fact that they always received the greatest civility and courtesy from artistes and railway officials alike. Mr. Fred Wood also replied.

THE LADIES.

The toast of "The Ladies" was given by Mr. Harry Freeman, who, as a bachelor of twenty-eight years' experience, said he would like to call every lady "one of the boys." When anyone got up to propose "The Ladies," he usually said "What would the gentlemen be without them?" As minstrelism had recurred, he might say, "Thirty bob a week in pocket!"

Miss Lottie Albert replied, and hoped that with all their faults the gentlemen loved them still.

THE PRESS.

Mr. Tom Morton proposed the toast of "The Press." The professional Press, he said, had, in the past, kindly given all possible publicity to the doings and actions of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association. The variety artistes ought to be proud of their Press. They all said they had the largest circulation, and, of course, the artistes believed them, but their publications were always thoroughly readable, pithy, and up to date.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. Edgar White, the representative of "The Era."

THE NOBLE 600.

The Chairman said: We have had the toast of "The Kindred Societies." We mustn't leave out the youngest, the Noble 600, who made a freehold property of the home at Brinsworth—a deed that will never be forgotten by the profession. I hope the Noble 600 will live long. I may not ask for donations to-night, but I am convinced that when we make a call the Noble 600 will be there with their warm hearts and generous purses. (Hear, hear.)

THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Harry Gribben proposed the toast of "The Chairman," who, he said, had done everything possible in the sacred cause of charity. He wished long life and prosperity to him and all who belonged to him.

Mr. Elvin said he appreciated the kind remarks made very much. Anything he did at any time in the profession, or out of it, would be done from the bottom of his heart. "Ladies," concluded Mr. Elvin, "I have my dancing card here, and I shall be at the corner of the paddock. When it comes to the old turkey trot I am a goer, so don't leave me out." (Laughter.)

A speech was demanded from Mrs. Elvin, who said she was sorry she could not speak there, as she talked too much at home—a statement that was warmly corroborated by Mr. Elvin.

A word should be added in appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Jack Harris, who ably acted as toastmaster.

Dancing began at midnight, and lasted till five in the morning, the comprehensive programme being taken full advantage of. The dresses of the ladies were in many cases exquisite, and the gay throng presented as pretty a set as the Grand Hall of the Criterion could ever have witnessed.

The duties of stewards were commendably discharged by Messrs. Edward H. Lucas, Tom J. Morton, T. C. Callaghan, and Chas. Cornish.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—"Romance," a three-act play with a prologue and epilogue, by Edward Sheldon, was produced at Maxine Elliott's Theatre on the 10th inst., by the Messrs. Shubert. In the prologue we learn that the young grandson of Bishop Armstrong is engaged to an actress. While remonstrating with the boy, the Bishop admits that he, too, has had a romance, and relates the love story of his youth, the scene changing so as to show him as the young clergyman of St. Giles's Church, forty years ago. Whilst attending a reception at the house of Cornelius van Tuyl, a banker, the clergyman meets the famous opera singer, Cavallini, and falls in love with her. She visits his aunt at the rectory to say good-bye, as she is about to sail for Europe, and the romance is carried a step further. But although her character is not above reproach the singer is too honest to go on with the affair without compelling him to pause in his heedless wooing, and she finally confesses to an illicit relationship with the banker. The third act shows Cavallini's suite of rooms at the Brevoort House on the evening of her farewell appearance at the opera. In the interview that takes place between the singer and the clergyman, the latter is evidently possessed with a desire to "convert" the woman with whom he has been infatuated. As the midnight chimes announce the birth of a new year, the young rector and the singer part for ever, and we see once again the Bishop's library, with the latter finishing the story he has been telling his grandson. He smiles when he perceives that he has failed to dampen the young man's ardour and finally consents to perform the ceremony. And as the play ends, the Bishop's grand-daughter reads from an evening paper the announcement of Mme. Cavallini's death in Italy. Miss Doris Keane is an excellent Cavallini, and her performance has been highly praised. As the young clergyman in the play, and the white-haired Bishop in the prologue and epilogue, Mr. William Courtenay represents both characters faithfully and well. Mr. A. E. Anson's Cornelius van Tuyl is a most interesting figure, and the embodiment of grace, dignity, and refinement. "Romance" is a charming play, and is likely to enjoy a wide popularity.

"The Unwritten Law," a drama in three acts, by Edwin Milton Royle, has scored a success at the Fulton Theatre. Produced by Mr. H. H. Frazee, the play is admirably acted, the principal players being Mr. Frank Sheridan and Miss May Buckley. The story is depressing, although the "unwritten law" is supposed to bring it to a happy conclusion. It is about a lawyer who becomes a drunkard. He sinks, and his family sink with him. A saloon-keeper befriends the wife and she learns to love him. After he has scandalised her, however, he refuses to marry her, although she has obtained a divorce. When she learns that he is about to desert her for another woman she kills him. The husband returns at the same moment and is found by a policeman with the knife in his hand. He is arrested for murder, but when the case is brought before the grand jury the wife is hypnotised by a physician, and she tells the entire story, the case being dismissed under the "unwritten law." Mr. George Farren appears as the drinking husband and Mr. Frederick Burton as the physician.

The Irish Players, from the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, are with us again, and their return visit has proved quite uneventful, there having been no riots and no arrests, although they have performed "The Playboy of the Western World." Wallack's Theatre is the scene of the present engagement. On the opening night, "The Magnanimous Lover," a one-act play, by St. John G. Ervine, was acted for the first time in New York and was well received, Miss Sara Allgood winning the principal honours. Another new play in which the company appeared during the week was entitled "Patriots." It was in three acts and was written by Lennox Robinson. "Maurice Harte," a play in two acts, by T. C. Murray, and "Damer's Gold," a two-act comedy, by Lady Gregory, were other offerings that were new to our stage. These performances exercised the versatility of the Irish Players to a remarkable degree, and were warmly praised.

"Lead, Kindly Light" is the unusual title of a dramatic sketch produced last week at Hammerstein's Victoria Theatre as part of the regular vaudeville bill. The scene is laid on the "east side" and shows an open-air meeting conducted by several members of the Salvation Army, the band playing the hymn named in the title. A "crook" tries to lead a girl who has reformed back to her former way of living, but the music helps her to come to the right decision and the "crook" pleads in vain. A policeman and a tramp supply the comedy.

The new Princess Theatre, in West Thirty-ninth-street, is to be devoted to short plays of the "intimate" type. The opening bill will include a light comedy by Stanley Houghton, entitled "Fancy Free"; a playlet called "Fear," originally produced at the Grand Guignol, in Paris; a one-act comedy by Edgar Wallace, entitled "The Switchboard"; and "Any Night," a miniature melodrama, by Edwin Ellis. Mr. Holbrook Blinn will be the stage-director.

A private performance of Brieux's play, "Damaged Goods," will be given at the Astor Theatre on March 10. The play is to be given under the auspices of the Sociological Fund of the "Medical Review of Reviews." The audience will be restricted to members of the Fund who can assist in spreading the eugenic doctrine in so far as it relates to marriage, the play being part of the propaganda for a law prohibiting marriage except on presentation by both parties of a physician's certificate of health.

Mr. Charles Frohman intends to revive "Much Ado About Nothing" next season, with Mr. John Drew as Benedick. Mr. Drew played Benedick many years ago to Miss Ada Rehan's Beatrice at Daly's Theatre.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Miss May Irwin has returned to the local stage after a rather long absence and is renewing her popularity in a comedy called "Widow by Proxy," now running at George M. Cohan's Theatre. Miss Catherine Chisholm Cushing, who wrote the piece, has provided Miss Irwin with a rôle that fits her admirably, and the songs we always look for whenever she appears have not been forgotten. In this instance, Miss Irwin impersonates Gloria Grey, who has a friend in financial straits and undertakes to help her. The friend is a widow who has inherited a legacy, but before she can obtain any money she must make friends with her late husband's relatives. This is a difficult thing to do, because they have always looked down upon her, and her pride stands in the way. In this predicament her friend Gloria assumes her identity for the time being, which causes many amusing complications. Miss Irwin's company includes Miss Clara Blandick, Miss Alice Johnson, and Mr. Orlando Daly.

"Everyman" is to be revived, and Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, who originated the title-rôle in this country, will play the part again. The play had a long run in this city ten years ago. Mr. Ben Greet will superintend the revival.

Mr. De Wolf Hopper is to have the rôle of General Ollendorf in "The Beggar Student" when Millöcker's famous light opera is revived by the Shuberts a few weeks hence. Another spring revival now in rehearsal is "The Geisha," for which a strong cast has been engaged, including the inimitable "Jimmy" Powers.

Miss Lillian Russell is lecturing on "How to live a hundred years and die young." Kinema-color pictures help to explain how this can be done.

Mr. Harry Lauder has been appearing with his usual success at the Broadway Theatre. His songs and characterisations were enjoyed to the utmost, and he had the entire house with him from the moment he appeared until he made his final bow. Of course, the house was crowded at every performance. Lauder is about to make a tour of the South. He will visit thirty-five cities, including New Orleans.

A combined music hall and restaurant is to be built in West Fifty-sixth-street. The new house will have seats for 3,000 persons, and the prices will be from fifty cents to a dollar. After 11 p.m. persons who have visited other theatres will be admitted on payment of 25 cents if they show their seat checks. The programme will include light opera, pantomime, and vaudeville. The house will have three tiers of boxes seating from eight to fifteen persons each for the accommodation of dinner and supper parties. The new music hall will be under the direction of Messrs. F. C. Whitney, B. C. Whitney, and Alfred E. Aarons.

VARIETY ARTISTES' FEDERATION.

At a special general meeting of the Variety Artistes' Federation held at the Bedford Head yesterday, with Mr. W. H. Clemart in the chair, the following amendment to Rule 4, which deals with the qualification for membership, was adopted, with one dissentient:—The following shall be eligible for membership:—

(1) Any performer who accepts contracts for engagements over his own signature, and who is actually engaged in entertaining music hall, theatre, circus, or kindred audiences.

(2) Any member of sketches, troupes, or other acts.

(3) Any proprietor of sketches, troupes, or other acts, whether appearing in the same or not.

(4) But any person who is accepted to membership, acting in the capacity of manager, sub-manager, manager's clerk or assistant, agent or agent's assistant, shall not have the right to attend meetings, vote at elections, or be eligible for the Executive Committee. Such persons shall, moreover, not be entitled to the benefits and the rights of membership, with the exception of the death levy, when acting in the capacity of a manager, sub-manager, manager's clerk or assistant, agent or agent's assistant, nor be entitled to legal protection for matters arising out of his business as a manager or as an agent. The word "manager" as used in these Rules shall mean any person who is the manager of a music hall, theatre, or circus in his own right, or acting in that capacity on behalf of a syndicate or company. The word "agent" as used in these Rules shall not mean a member of the Variety Artistes' Federation to whom permission to act as an agent has been granted by the Executive Committee, and who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, continues to make the major portion of his income as a performer. In any case arising, the decision of the Executive Committee shall be final and binding.

(5) A limited company admitted to membership under this rule must pay death dues whenever same are levied.

A new section was also added to Rule 7, as follows:—

(7) A member who, while still remaining a performer, becomes a proprietor, manager, sub-manager, manager's clerk or assistant, agent or agent's assistant, shall be entitled to the death levy and legal protection in connection with his own act, but shall not have the right to attend meetings, vote at elections, or be eligible for the Executive Committee.

The Empire, Camberwell, will hold during the week, from Monday next, an amateur carnival, for three prizes of £2 and three of £1. The judges will consist of several gentlemen well known in the variety business. For entrance (which is free) personal applications may be made or addressed by post, to the Manager, Carnival, Empire, Camberwell.

On the occasion of the benefit performance to be given on Tuesday next at the Tottenham Palace to George Raymond, who sustained serious injuries at the recent Variety Artistes v. 'Spurs football match, Miss Ella Erskine and Mr. Noel Phelps will appear in an entirely new farcical comedy, "The Understudy," specially written for the occasion by Cecil Howard-Turner.

It having come to the knowledge of Mr. Fred Tallman, exhibition billiard player, now appearing at the Oxford, that the representative of a well-known firm of billiard-table manufacturers has stated that the table and balls he uses are magnetised, Mr. Tallman, while emphatically denying the canard, is prepared to prove the genuineness of the whole of his kit with a money challenge of any amount. Moreover, Mr. Tallman will be grateful to anyone who can give him legal proof as to when and where the above statements have been made.

On Thursday evening some sixty members of the Islington Charities Committee paid a visit to Collins's, having previously booked the first and second rows of fauteuils. Mr. J. P. Mitchelhill, one of the proprietors, has treated the committee very generously in lending the members of the executive a room in which to hold their meetings, and the surprise visit was arranged as a slight acknowledgment of his kindness. Those present included Councillor H. Trounce, chairman of the executive committee; Messrs. P. Richard and E. W. Sack, hon. secretaries; Lewis Jackson, ex-president; Mr. Pat Doherty (vice-president), and Mr. Dolan (vice-chairman). At the conclusion of the entertainment Mr. Mitchelhill, who was highly gratified at the compliment paid him, invited the members of the committee to assemble in the saloon bar, where refreshments were served.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

Correspondents are requested to forward their Reports next week for Saturday's "Era" so that they reach us not later than FIRST POST on WEDNESDAY MORNING.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

At the beautiful "house on the Green" there is a fine bill this week. Conductor E. W. Eyre leads the way—and his orchestra—with a beautiful selection from Rossini's always tuneful "Semiramide." Then Emerald and Dupré present "A Hot Scotch" with tremendous energy; the clever couple sing, dance, and contort to the intense amusement of the audience. Quite a live duo are Emerald and Dupré, and work hard to win encouragement. As a vocal and character impressionist Conway George is pre-eminently successful; his répertoire is an extended one: he gives a wonderful falsetto rendition of "Il Bacio" and is equally clever in an imitation of a small child's vocal effort; he meets with a flattering reception. A quaint example of the world's topsy-turveyism is reflected in the doings of Tameo Kajiyama, who is an altogether amazing phenomenon, for in the way of caligraphy nothing comes amiss to this wonderful artiste; not only is he ambidextrous, but he writes with wonderful rapidity upside down, backwards, and, indeed, at any angle. It is claimed that this astonishing example of independent action is controlled by two distinct but simultaneous mental impulses, which has won for Tameo the cognomen of "The Man with the Double Brain." Without attempting in any way to solve the problem presented, we content ourselves with the remark that it is one of the most startling examples of dexterity and skill we have ever met. Tameo's methods are quite excellent and distinctly original.

Particularly quaint and delightfully pleasing is Minnie Love with the "Rag-time Goblin Band," enhanced with a silk suit of "jemmies"; she is really at her best in a quaint ditty dealing with the indiscretion of talking in one's sleep; such baneful habits are apt to lead to consequences, as the merry little comedienne demonstrates ever so prettily. "A Patchwork of Music and Song" is admirably adapted to show off the varied abilities of the Three Collegians; it would be difficult to say which of the trio is most diverting; so we cordially share our commendation among Messrs. J. Hugh Fish, F. T. Crumpit, and Ed. O'Rell—all clever Yale boys, whose performance is capital throughout. Signorina Maliella is a young Neapolitan, who does ample justice to the waltz song from "The Chocolate Soldier," and wins the approval of everyone; and Rinaldo is here with his wonderful selection from "Poet and Peasant." There is no pause in the fun while Tom Foy and his clever company—to say nothing of his asinine companion—hold the stage, and the audience grow hilarious at the antics of Tom and his intelligent ass, "The First of April" is capitally enacted; and there isn't a dull moment in "From Demon to Fairy Land," in which Mlle. Marjutti evidences her ability in a remarkable way.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

A strong feature in the programme at the Kingston Empire this week is the American protean artiste, Charlotte Parry, in her psychological fantasy, "Into the Light," by Frank Lyman. The fantasy centres upon criminal proceedings against an Italian woman for murder, in the course of which this clever artiste impersonates all the witnesses, including a male, and a coloured female, as well as the accused, with great success. The fantasy turns out to be a dream, and in a scene where the supposed criminal awakes in bed and discovers the fact there is a strong dramatic situation. A notable feature of the performance are the wonderful changes in the voice of the artiste when impersonating the various witnesses. Mr. Charles Whittle makes a welcome return visit to Kingston, and was warmly applauded for his singing of "Toddling home" and "Come and have a drink with me." May Henderson, another Kingston favourite, is making a hit in several songs, including "I don't like London." A favourable impression has also been created by Poppy Holland, a soubrette comedienne, in her songs "Oh, Mabe, I never knew a boy like you" and "When I conduct the band." The Sylvester Trio, vocalists and dancers, and the Four Yvettes, comedy gymnasts, also meet with much approval. Harry Luck, comedian, and the Empire Pictorial Chronicle are also strong features in the bill, which includes Francesca, "the vocal chameleon," in connection with whose performance some wonderful lime effects are produced. On Good Friday there will be a grand evening concert with a full band conducted by Mr. J. Glover, of Drury Lane fame.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

It is quite evident that the popular managers of this well-known East End house are bent on giving their patrons full value for their money, the result being crowded houses at each performance. At the head of the bill this week is Harry Weldon, well known as "Stiffy," the best goal-keeper that ever let a goal go through, in his burlesque creations. His burlesques on the soldier and sailor are very funny, and, needless to say, he keeps the house bubbling over with mirth. Miss Nellie Wigley, fresh from her recent pantomime triumphs, has a rousing reception in her two songs, "Give my love to bonnie Scotland" and "My heart is with you to-night," these being two of her great hits in the recent pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

Miss Marie McAuley and Wingold Lawrence presented their thrilling dramatic episode entitled, "A Man and a Woman," portraying how difficult it is for a woman to free herself when once she has taken the wrong turning. A very fine vocal and dancing act was presented by the Four Curtis', several rag-time numbers being introduced. A very perky personage is Phil Parsons, and he made a great hit with his two new chorus songs, "All through the wedding march" and the "Cinema Man," who kept on turning the handle, the former perhaps being the better of the two. A capital domestic comedy was presented by Hunt and Thomas, the lady of the duo revealing the possession of a sweet contralto voice in her rendering of the "Serenade Song," and the business about the incident at the ball provoking great laughter. Ernie Mayne kept the ball rolling merrily with his song "Pushing," a wicked (?) satire on matrimony, whilst his item "Rag-time glove fight," containing ludicrously funny parodies on "Rag-time Violin," "Beautiful Doll," and "Dixie," absolutely brought the house down. Belle Davis' Cracker Jacks, a troupe of darkie dancing gymnasts, created an excellent impression and performed some remarkable acrobatic feats. Victor Kelly was very successful with his two numbers, whilst Miss Elsie Blanche, a very attractive comedienne with a graceful style, scored well. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. L. Maurice, was excellent, whilst Mr. Morris Abrahams, the popular manager, is courtesy personified.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

The programme here this week is the acme of artistic refinement, and crowded houses are the rule. Miss Mabel Sinclair, whose novel ventriloquial act is specially noticed elsewhere, is well received; Whit Cunliffe has two numbers, as good as any he has given us yet, which is saying a great deal, "Have a bit on the lady" and the delightful "Mr. Cupid," in both of which he shines brilliantly, for he is a "star" of the first order. Loud applause follows his "turn." A most successful début is made by thirty performers from the United States styling themselves "American Rag-time Band," which, from the notice we read in "Wednesday Era," would appear to be the same as "Alexander's Rag-time Band," appearing at Tottenham. As this act is fully noticed there we will say no more, with the exception that at Hammersmith we had apparently an extra treat, for the sole lady in the company appeared in a box and sang "Oh, you beautiful doll," the antics of the band the while causing much amusement. At both houses on Monday the band had a capital reception.

Tom Leamore and H. O. Wills, both billed and on the programme, did not put in an appearance, but one deputy was found in Olive Tempest and Co., who "thought reads in rag-time." This is how it's done:—A gentleman partner in the stalls listens whilst a member of the audience "hums" in a whispering tone the refrain of a rag-time chorus, and Miss Tempest sings what has been "hummed" to her partner. Miss Olive Tempest has a charming stage presence and quite a good voice, but the act cannot be accredited a success. Herbert Rule has two good numbers, the best being "Woolloomooloo" (we hope we've got it right). His patter with a confederate in the stalls in this latter number is decidedly clever.

Maidie Scott has two good numbers, one relating to "the little bird on Nellie's hat," and the other to the golden hue of the hair which she wears. Both are low comedy numbers, and decidedly clever character studies. But we hope Maidie hasn't for ever finished with "If the managers only thought," &c. We have such pleasant recollections of a sweet and vivacious little "Maidie" in that number. The Christie Duo prove themselves a comedy duo of no mean ability, the dancing of the lady partner being very good.

Ray and Fay Lilmar are clever child artistes, their closing number, "'A Fancy Waltz," is particularly well done, and evidences very careful training. Mignon and Fraesettis are well received in an artistic musical and dancing melange. The little danseuse, a clever child, has an engaging style withal. Bert Coote and Co. present "A Lamb on Wall Street," and we have rarely seen anything as funny as the antics of Bert's dude—a creation in comic character. With quite an exciting plot, the sketch grips one, and the two minor parts are well sustained by Ada Russell and J. C. Aubrey.

Mr. J. Cleeve conducts the orchestra, one or two popular bioscope pictures are included in the programme, and Mr. Leslie Conroy, the courteous and tactful manager, ably controls.

EAST HAM PALACE.

An altogether varied and entertaining programme is submitted at the above hall this week, where the chief position on the bill is occupied by Mr. Joe Peterman's company, including Jimmy Learmouth, in "The Stationmaster." This sketch is an excellent bit of fooling, and brought forth constant peals of laughter. The bulk of the work falls on the capable shoulders of Jimmy Learmouth as "Milky," the stationmaster, and his antics and sayings kept the house in high glee all the time he was on the stage. The sketch abounds in humorous situations, and the part where the station officials indulge in a football match with the hats of the passengers is screamingly funny. Mention must be made of the realistic and well-managed effects used in the railway collision scene.

Prominent on the bill are Scott and Whaley, eccentric comedians from the States, whose cross-talk, dancing, singing, and piano playing make them very popular. The funny man, who is the pianist of the duo, has a stentorian voice, and a droll style. The Four Royal Scots, in their presentation of Scotch solos, quartettes, &c., are a musical treat, their numbers being all well rendered. They have all well-trained voices of excellent quality, and especially did we enjoy their singing of "Green grow the rashes, oh!" The singing of Mr. Harry Lauder's song, "Just a wee doch-an-doris," by the four was greatly appreciated. Naughton and Gold, prime favourites at this hall, had an excellent reception. They have nothing to learn in their own particular line. The Four Braggs are clever equilibrists, and they performed a number of feats, which, for their variety and daring, richly merited the approbation they received.

Lily Long, the six-foot eccentric comedienne, is an entirely novel turn, and uses her sparse proportions and great height to the best advantage. In two undoubtedly grotesque costumes, she sings in good style two very catchy numbers, her second, "Has anybody seen my Georgie," proving very popular. Albert Letine is a clever exponent of female character studies, his make-up in each case being perfect. His impersonation of Mlle. Gaby Deslys in the now famous "Gaby-glide" song and dance, being exceptionally well executed. Harry Levaine is a comedian with an original style, his patter and gags being new and up to date; Will Nosam, the Guinea Gold coon, has a pleasing voice, and his coon song, "Dinah," was well sung. The Bioscope completed a capital programme.

BATTERSEA PALACE.

Variety is represented at this hall by four good turns this week. Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and dancers, prove themselves agile and characteristic sand dancers. Ethel Arundell contributes some charming vocalisation. Fred Kempton as a drunken comedian is vastly amusing, and Captain Devereux's highly intelligent company of dogs cause great amusement during their clever and busy little performance.

Following these is presented the melodrama, "The Stepmother," written by Arthur Shirley, and produced and stage-managed effectively by Mr. H. G. Brandon. Throughout its four acts and eleven scenes this well-written and well-constructed piece hold the close attention of the audience, and is consequently drawing excellent houses.

As Bob Bristow, the hero, Mr. Frank Beresford gives a capitally sea-breezy picture of an heroic ship's captain home upon frequent holiday and matrimonially inclined the while. His first wife, Amy Bristow, is an interesting invalid in the opening act as portrayed by Miss Dorothy Milne. Abraham Wiggins, the sly villain of the piece, is in the good hands of Mr. Clifford Marle; and his female assistant in villainy, Anna Vickers, who becomes the captain's second wife during the progress of the play, has an excellent representative in Miss May Emery.

Luke Trexal, the lady's real husband, receives a capital performance at the hands of Mr. Dick Cruikshanks; and Danny, the captain's little son, round whom, in his relations with his cruel stepmother and his devotion to his dead mother much of the interest centres, is a pathetic little figure as played by Miss May Davis. Johanna Jones and the policeman, Timothy Napp, played respectively by Miss Trixie Southern and Mr. Fred de Vere, provide the comedy relief, which is not of a particularly strong nature, although the two parts are well filled. As Zeke Mr. George Fredericks is quite efficient, and as David Blake, of Scotland Yard, Mr. Frank Denis acts with all necessary force and vigour.

A special word of praise must be accorded to Miss Cissie Clarke, who performs the part of Clara, the cheeky offspring of the villainous Anna Vickers. This little lady gives a capital and most amusingly natural impersonation of unruly childhood from first to last, and is of great assistance to the play.

MUSIC HALL FAVOURITES.

STAFFO.

The well-known artist named Staffo, who combines in his act the business of a patter comedian and juggler, is a native of Newport, Shropshire. Although still a young man, being yet on the sunny side of thirty, his many and varied experiences have endowed him with a thorough grasp of his work. As a youngster at school he developed a taste for juggling, and a visit to a local circus fired his boyish mind with ambition to become a performer. In spite of strenuous opposition from his father, a local grocer, whose intentions were that the boy should learn the same business as himself, he ran away from home at the age of twelve and joined a troupe of jugglers. With this troupe he toured the Continent, but on their return to England ran away during an engagement at the London Alhambra, taking with him the benefits of five years' experience in a hard, practical school, and, incidentally, a row of broken front teeth caused through catching plates.

Lack of funds then compelled him to return home to his parents, and for eight months he assisted in his father's business. The grocer's counter, however, had little charm for him, and he seized with eagerness an opportunity which was afforded to appear at a manager's benefit at the Queen's Theatre, Longton. The difficulty of not having a suitable costume, however, presented itself, but a friendly butcher came to his assistance with the suggestion that he should appear in a butcher's smock and juggle with the implements used in this business, backing up the suggestion with a kindly offer to lend him the necessary apparel and articles for the benefit performance. The offer was readily accepted, and after the performance Staffo decided to per-

[Photo by F. Bustin.

STAFFO.

manently adopt that style of dress. Before budding out as a full-blown music hall artiste, he worked with a troupe of pierrots at Hastings, and made tours with a fit-up show through the villages of the Midlands, and with a one-night stand pantomime company.

He seriously commenced music hall work about five years ago, and has played contracts with the Gibbons, De Frece, and Broadhead tours, and the principal independent provincial houses, has fulfilled several pantomime engagements, and has offers for Continental and American work. The remark, "See what I mean?" with which he intersperses the constant stream of patter during his act, was introduced more by accident than intent. On a tramcar in which he was journeying homewards after the show two men, who had imbibed a little too freely, were engaged in an argument, one of them constantly emphasising his points by saying very audibly, "See what I mean?" The repetition of this phrase so got on Staffo's nerves that he unintentionally let it slip into his patter the following evening, and, finding it work well, has continued to use it ever since.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

At Richmond this week the now famed Palladium Minstrels hold the boards. All the old favourites are here, including Mr. Arthur Lawrence as interlocutor, the other cast being distributed as follows: Cornermen—Bones: Messrs. George Alderman, George Munro, Tom Mackenzie, Billy Ross, and Charles Jerome; Tamboe: Messrs. Jimmy Tray, Willie Lane, Alf Wood, William Glenney, and Johnny Danvers; Musical-Conductor, Mr. Harry Stafford; Orchestration by Chas. Moore. The programme met with immense favour, and included the usual répertoire, in which Johnny Danvers in "Ebenezer Webb" scored a success. A wild interlude, "Dr. Whackem's Academy," is admirably done by a powerful company; and "The Homecoming of Massa Jack" completes a fine bill. Mr. Danvers is responsible for the productions, and in front of the house is Mr. J. H. Tilley, the courteous acting-manager.

The announcement in the "Evening News" that Captain T. W. Sarle, special correspondent of Pathé Frères, had a monkey at Golders Green which was rescued from destitution at the seat of war, and was now for sale, has brought an offer of £10 for the monkey from Mr. Tom Norman, the well-known showman auctioneer. The £10 will be given, it should be added, to the National Reserve Fund, and Captain Sarle hopes, preferably, to the Hampstead detachment.

Mr. Harry Leighton, the well-known song writer, has been in failing health for some considerable time, and has been medically advised that change of climate is absolutely essential to his recovery. Under the auspices of the Scribes Society of Authors and Composers, a concert on his behalf will be held at the Avondale Hall, Lauder-road, Clapham, on the evening of Tuesday, April 1, when many of our most prominent artistes have kindly consented to appear. Others wishing to oblige or contribute to the fund are requested to notify Mr. Gilbert Wells, care of Messrs. Francis and Day, Charing Cross-road, by whom donations will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged.

HOUDINI'S LATEST FEAT.

POLICE OUT-MANŒUVRED.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The remarkable story of how Harry Houdini, the Handcuff King and famous self liberator, outmanœuvred the Newport Police, of how thousands collected to witness his daring leap from Newport Bridge, and of how the traffic was blocked for over an hour, was told to the Newport (Mon.) Borough Magistrates on Wednesday, when Houdini was summoned for unlawfully, to the obstruction of passengers, exhibiting a public entertainment on Newport Bridge on March 5, and also for obstructing the highway.

The Court was crowded. Mr. Treharne Morgan, Deputy Town Clerk, prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Houdini, who answered the charges in person, was represented by Mr. L. H. Hornby, solicitor, Newport. The case of obstruction was first taken, and defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Morgan explained that Houdini was performing at the Newport Empire last week. Mr. J. H. Milburn, the manager, and Houdini visited the Chief Constable's office and asked if he would give permission for Houdini to jump from Newport Bridge into the River Usk. The Chief Constable replied that he could not give such permission, and that he would not give any undertaking, if the attempt were made, that a summons would not be issued against Houdini. On the following day an advertisement appeared in the Press intimating that Houdini intended to jump from Newport Bridge into the water at a certain time. In the meantime the Chief Constable went into the matter carefully and subsequently came to the conclusion that it would be inadvisable to allow defendant to perform the feat. Consequently he informed Mr. Milburn and Houdini that he could not permit the performance to take place, and Mr. Milburn and Houdini said that they did not like to break faith with the public after the advertisements had been issued. It was then agreed, proceeded Mr. Morgan, that Mr. Milburn and Houdini should go to the Bridge and should be sent back by the police, and Houdini gave his word of honour that he would not attempt to jump from the Bridge. On the next day, March 5, about 5.15 p.m., a motor wagonette drove up to the Bridge, and in it was a man dressed like Houdini, and behind the wagonette was a taxi, in which rode Houdini. The wagonette and the taxi were sent back by the police. From four o'clock onwards large crowds of people had assembled on the Bridge, the tram service was stopped, and the roadway completely blocked. At 5.40 p.m. a taxi drove towards the Bridge from the opposite direction, and came to a stop in the centre of the Bridge. Defendant alighted from it, walked up to and climbed over the parapet, let himself down on to a buttress, and plunged into the river—in short, performed the feat that he was advertised to perform.

Mr. Hornby: The mere fact of an advertisement in the newspapers is not obstruction, and cannot be used in connection with the case. Suppose I inserted an advertisement to the effect that I was coming from Paris and intended going up in a balloon from Newport a large crowd would be very likely to collect.

The Chairman (Mr. A. J. Stevens): I am sure they would. (Laughter.)

Mr. Hornby: And all the time I might have no intention of going up in a balloon.

Mr. Morgan: The principal ground is that Houdini attended at the Bridge, and caused a large crowd to assemble.

Mr. Hornby: According to your own opening the crowd assembled long before Houdini arrived.

Mr. Morgan: I quite agree.

Inspector Cox, of the Newport Borough Police Force, deposed that he was on the Bridge at 4.30 p.m. on the day in question, and saw a large number of people assembled. An open car and a taxi came up, and after a conversation between the Chief Constable and the occupants they turned back. There were thousands of people on the Bridge. About 5.40 p.m. a taxi came from the opposite direction and drove to the centre of the Bridge. Houdini jumped out, mounted the palisade, lowered himself to the buttress of an arch, and jumped into the water. All the people rushed to one side of the Bridge, and witness was afraid that the palisading would give way. The passage of the Bridge was blocked from 4.30 until six o'clock.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hornby: The taxi was turned back at 5.15 p.m., and returned at 5.40 p.m. from the opposite direction. There were not so many people on the Bridge at 5.40 as at 5.15 p.m., and the traffic had been resumed. He did not know that Houdini had had any discussion with the Chief Constable as to which was the safest side of the Bridge to jump from.

Mr. Hornby: After the taxi was sent back at 5.15 I suppose you thought that Houdini would again appear and go over the Bridge?—No, I thought he had gone away.

Mr. Hornby: You thought you had got the better of him? I believe Houdini simply jumped from the taxi, clasped on the manacles, climbed the parapet, and plunged into the water?—Yes, and he was very smart.

Were other constables nearer to him than you?—Yes.

Did you hear any of the other constables say to the taxi driver, "He will not try it, it is a farce?"—No.

Did they try to stop him?—No, he was too fast.

Mr. C. E. Gower, chief constable of Newport, spoke to Mr. Milburn and Houdini visiting his office. The opening statement of Mr. Morgan was substantially correct.

Mr. Hornby: Houdini asked you for permission to jump from the Bridge?—Yes, and I said that I would not give permission, or any undertaking, if he attempted the feat, not to prosecute him.

Did you say that you would not give him permission, but that you would not put hindrances in his way?—I did not say that.

Do you think he might have had that impression?—He might have had, but I told him I could not give permission.

Did he say on leaving your office, "Thank you, that is all I want?"—Yes, I think he did say that.

Then he might have been under the impression that you would not put any hindrances in his way?—He might have been.

Did you receive a letter from some one respecting the safety of the Bridge as a structure?—Yes.

And was it in consequence of that that you changed your mind in regard to Houdini?—No, it was not.

Did you suggest that he should do his jump at the Docks?—I suggested that he might get permission of the Dock Company.

Did Houdini say, "It is advertised that I am to jump from the Bridge, and the people will think I am not keeping faith with them?—Yes.

Did you discuss with him as to the best side to jump from the Bridge?—No.

Was there any discussion about a letter?—Yes, I said I would give him a letter to say that the police were stopping the performance.

Did he say, "Suppose I get past your men," and did you say, "Well, if you do it will be all right?"—No, there was nothing of that kind. I told him if he came up to the Bridge he would be stopped and sent back.

Long before Houdini arrived a large crowd had collected?—Yes.

Then it was not actually Houdini's presence that attracted them?—It was the anticipation of his presence.

Re-examined by Mr. Morgan: Houdini might have had the impression at the first interview that he would not be stopped from jumping from the Bridge, but he could not have had that impression at the second interview, because he gave a distinct understanding that he would not jump from the Bridge.

Mr. Morgan: You did not give any undertaking that he would not be summoned?—Certainly not.

Mr. Hornby said that Houdini was a showman who went all over the country and the world, and he kept in touch with the police. At the first interview with the Chief Constable he was certainly under the impression that the police would offer no objection to his going over the Bridge. The undertaking said to be given by Houdini that he would not jump from the Bridge was absolutely disputed. Houdini denied, and denied very strongly, that he gave any such undertaking.

The magistrates were consulting when Houdini interrupted. "I want my oath against that of the Chief Constable," he said. "I did not give an undertaking."

The Chairman: The case is dismissed.

The second case, that of exhibiting a public entertainment, was then mentioned.

Mr. Hornby: One solitary act of athleticism cannot be styled a show, an entertainment, or, in the words of the section, "an exhibition in a caravan."

Mr. Morgan: A taxi cab and a caravan is a vehicle. The defendant came to the Bridge in swimming costume and ready to give an entertainment.

This case was also dismissed without any evidence being given. There was applause in Court, which was quickly suppressed.

Mr. Morgan: I intend to appeal in the first case.

A NEW VARIETY PROJECT.

The National Gymnasia and Entertainments, Ltd., is associated with a project that has been brought into being by the growing popularity of the Boy Scout and Cadet movement, and the scheme promises to have a far-reaching effect upon the music hall industry in England. It is in this connection that we take the opportunity of calling attention to the prospectus just issued. Sixteen towns are to have new picture and variety theatres, to be run as twice-nightly houses, each with a holding capacity of from 2,400 to 900. Sites have been selected, and options secured, in towns within a radius of 60 miles of London, where at present no really first-class hall exists, and when it is stated that the cost of each will range from £15,200 to £4,500, some idea may be formed as to the equipment being the most up-to-date that money can provide. It will be seen, therefore, that a new channel of employment is offered to the profession which promises to be of considerable importance.

The difficult problem of finding an audience is also met. The artistes' anxiety on this score may be appeased when it is announced that in conjunction with each hall there is to be inaugurated a gymnasium, rifle range, drill hall, plunge bath, library, and refreshment room, &c., in addition to which provision will be made for circus displays in the auditorium.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. George A. Higgs has another strong programme to offer this week, and it is evident that the management are letting nothing stand in the way of securing the best talent possible, and of late the programmes submitted have equalled any West End hall. Topping the bill is Fred Karno's latest sketch, "The Village Sports," which bids fair to rival his other productions as a laughter-maker. It has improved wonderfully since we saw it a few weeks since, and goes splendidly. Edgar Cooke and Jimmy Russell are included in the cast and they work very hard, their efforts being entirely successful.

Miss Ethel Entwistle has a fine voice and is successful, despite the fact that she is first turn. Gladys Le Clair is a youthful comedienne who makes a hit, her dancing being a special feature. The Three Radfords, who may be termed the Bedford's own, since they made their first hit, we believe, at a carnival here, are a trio of as smart dancers as may be seen anywhere. They dance splendidly, and there is no doubt that they will rapidly make a name for themselves, and they richly deserve success. Colley and Scott are always merry and bright. The lady, looking as charming as ever, aids and abets her male partner in keeping the fun going, and their turn is most popular. The mysterious lady singer, L'Incognita, is appearing here, and her vocal selections are much appreciated. There is no doubt that her rendering of "My hero," from "The Chocolate Soldier," is a fine effort and she was loudly applauded.

Fred W. Ring and company present a little trifle, "All Fools' Day," and provide a bright and amusing sketch. It is quite a slight idea, but is amusingly played by Mr. Ring and Miss G. Leigh, while Miss N. Dyson lends much assistance. The erratic comedian, Charles Grantling, has a style all his own. He sings an extremely comical ditty, from which he gets many laughs, then he patters a little, passing on quickly to impersonations grave and gay—original and witty all of it, and he scores a big hit. The Four Ormonds sung melodiously and introduce some clever dancing; their upside down dancing is distinctly original, and novelty always tells on the halls. There is practically nothing that W. F. Reno cannot do on a bicycle, and he does it all with ease, coupled with a fine sense of comedy, which keeps the house in a roar, and he makes an emphatic hit. The Brothers Shanks, assisted by Miss Devere, are diverting in their acrobatic comedy, "Midnight Sons."

Checkers Von Hampton and Hazel Josselyn are as clever a duo as we have seen for a long time. Their whole turn is fresh and novel, and their rendering of "The mysterious rag" is quite the wildest thing we have seen in rag-time of late. Their turn is most acceptable and their popularity tremendous. Harry Rignold and company in "Fido: The Bulldog Detective," bring the programme to a conclusion and Mr. Harry Rignold gives a clever dog impersonation. The little play is well acted by Miss Molly Shine and Mr. Stanley Brereton, and the production is well received.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, who is at present playing his first engagement on the Broadhead Tour, in his successful production, "Dan, the Outlaw," had the pleasant experience on Monday of having Mr. William Broadhead shake him by the hand and remark: "Mr. Shelley, I like your show so much." It is needless to say how an artiste values such a spontaneous tribute to his work.

Miss Jessie Templeton has now recovered from her attack of influenza, and produced at Wood Green Empire last week "When the dancers are leaving the ballroom." She is featuring the number this week at the Palace, Glasgow, to which she is paying her fourth return visit.

A proof of the popularity of Miss Helena Millais in "Silver Creek" is the fact that 20,000 picture postcards of her in the character of Nance have been sold during the last forty weeks. The sketch is at the Bedminster Hippodrome this week, where it is creating even more excitement than it did last June at the Empire, Bristol. Next week it will "top the bill" at Hackney Empire.

THE PUNCHINELLOS.

Before Mr. Justice Darling and a Special Jury, on Wednesday, was commenced an action for an alleged breach of contract, brought against the Palace Theatre (Limited) by Mr. Harry Gabriel Pelissier, proprietor of "The Follies" entertainment.

In January of 1912 it was agreed between the parties that a new piece, called "The Punchinellos," should be performed at the Palace Theatre, by Mr. Pelissier's company for eight weeks, at £200 a week. Defendants, however, objected to pay more than £130 a week, alleging that they had been induced to agree to pay £200 a week by certain misrepresentations with regard to the piece, an allegation which plaintiff denied.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., and Mr. Theobald Mathew (instructed by Messrs. Charles Russell and Co.,); Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., and Mr. Beyfus (instructed by Messrs. Beyfus and Beyfus) were for defendants.

Mr. Marshall Hall explained that in the autumn of 1911 Mr. Pelissier called upon Mr. Butt, manager of the Palace Theatre, and mentioned that he had thought of a new entertainment on the lines of "The Follies," to be called "The Punchinellos." In the course of the conversation Mr. Pelissier, who was always full of new ideas, said it would be a good thing to have real bells for the opening chorus, and it was now suggested by defendants that there was a deliberate warranty to provide real bells. Ultimately it was arranged that "The Punchinellos" should be performed at the Palace Theatre for five weeks, commencing Jan. 29, 1912, at £200 a week. Subsequently, in consideration of Mr. Pelissier agreeing to postpone the production until Feb. 19, Mr. Butt extended the period for eight weeks. Accordingly, on Jan. 29 of last year a trial run was given of "The Punchinellos" at the Finsbury Park Empire. The performance was witnessed by Mr. Ernest Polden, a managing director of the Palace Theatre Company. During the course of the evening Mr. Polden had a conversation with Mr. Pelissier. He seemed to be perfectly satisfied with the show, and made no complaint, except that he thought the voice of one of the lady vocalists was rather weak. Mr. Pelissier said that this could soon be put right, and another lady with a fuller voice was engaged at a salary of £5 per week.

On Feb. 19 "The Punchinellos" was produced at the Palace Theatre, and was a great success, getting three calls. Afterwards, at the request of Mr. Butt, it was cut down from forty to thirty-one minutes, as the management were anxious to put on a short version of "The Geisha." On Feb. 21 Mr. Butt suggested that the piece should be further cut, but Mr. Hugh Wright, who was stage manager, said he had no time then, and could not act without instructions from Mr. Pelissier, who was in the provinces. There was no complaint about any misrepresentation at the time, and, as far as Mr. Wright could gather, Mr. Butt seemed perfectly satisfied with the show.

LETTER OF COMPLAINT.

On Feb. 22, however, unknown either to Mr. Wright or Mr. Demanche, Mr. Pelissier's agent, Mr. Butt wrote to Mr. Pelissier:

I was exceedingly surprised and disappointed when I saw the Punchinello performance on Monday last, for, candidly, the show was not at all as represented to me, and was no better than the Vaudeville Follies. Indeed, I do not think, with the exception of one or two items, that the programme was as good.

I waited before writing you in reference to it, as I was anxious to see Mr. Polden, who, I understood, during my absence saw the performance, and spoke to you about the matter. I have now seen Mr. Polden. He tells me that after seeing the show he had an interview with you, and complained to you that the show was not anything like what it had been represented to us, and that you had promised to considerably improve the performance, and had, in fact, assured him that the performance as given here, both as regards the scenery and the programme itself, would be totally different from what he had seen.

You will remember that the original figure discussed for the show between us was £130 per week, but your agent, Mr. Demanche, subsequently came to me and stated that you found it impossible to produce the show at this figure owing to the great cost of the production, which he said you had worked out, and would certainly not be less than £1,000.

Upon both these statements we agreed to pay £200 per week, but having seen the show I am sorry to say that the production had been grossly misrepresented to us.

To give you one instance, it may be mentioned that in urging us to pay £200 a week Mr. Demanche said that you proposed having eight or ten bells, and that as these would have to be specially cast they would be most costly. In fact, he mentioned that they would cost from £15 to £20 each!

My directors feel that as the show was not what was represented they cannot see their way to pay more than the original sum of £130 per week, and I think you will see the justice of their contention, and even at that figure I must tell you unhesitatingly that I would have preferred to have had the Vaudeville Follies rather than this programme.

Mr. Pelissier forwarded the letter to his solicitors, who wrote defendants to the effect that their allegations were totally untrue, and that their client intended to hold them to the exact terms of the contract. The Palace Theatre paid plaintiff £130 a week under protest, and the question for the jury was whether Mr. Pelissier was entitled to an additional £70 per week for eight weeks.

MR. PELISSIER'S EVIDENCE.

Plaintiff, in his evidence, said that he was the sole proprietor of the entertainment known as "The Follies," which had been worked in London for many years. In addition to the London "Follies" he had a sort of No. 2 company, called "The Vaudeville Follies," which had been playing at suburban houses and in the provinces. In autumn of 1911 an idea came into his mind to start a new show called "The Punchinellos." He knew Mr. Butt very well, and he accordingly called upon him at the Palace Theatre, and mentioned the idea to him. Mr. Butt asked him how much the production would cost, but witness replied that he could not possibly say, as he had not gone into the matter. There was some discussion about the Vaudeville Follies, but witness said he would want higher terms than those given for the Vaudeville Follies, for which he was paid £100 a week when in London and £120 on tour.

In the course of conversation witness remarked to Mr. Butt that it would be rather a novelty if they had real bells slung from the flies so that the artists in the opening chorus could ring them. He did not guarantee to produce the real bells. It was merely an idea which occurred to him, but the bells would not make or mar the show. Sketches of the dresses and scenery were shown to Mr. Butt, and witness told him that he wanted £200 a week for the show. He would not have taken a contract for £130. A contract for £200 a week for a run of five weeks was ultimately executed. One of the stipulations was that Mr. Hugh Wright, who was a comedian of reputation, should be one of the artistes, and that he should be paid £15 a week and 5 per cent. commission, another stipulation being that Mr. Herbert Oliver, composer and musician, should be engaged at £8 a week and 2½ per cent. commission.

Other gentlemen and ladies were engaged, and witness considered them all to be good artistes. It had been arranged to produce the Punchinellos on Jan. 29, 1912, but just before that time Mr. Butt suggested that there should be a postponement until Feb. 19, and this witness agreed to, Mr. Butt increasing the run to eight weeks at £200 a week. In the meantime the entertainment was given at Finsbury Park Empire, Stratford, and New Cross. Mr. Polden saw the performance at Finsbury Park, and made no complaint except that the voice of one of the girls was weak. Witness assured him that that could easily be remedied, and subsequently strengthened the company by engaging another artiste.

PUNCHINELLO LAND.

Mr. Marshall Hall: Give us some description of the piece.

Witness: It opens with Punchinello Land. There is a gauze cloth in front of the stage, and the house is in darkness, and there is a cinematograph of a planet revolving. The lights go up; the sun appears through the gauze; and the performers, who appear to have been asleep, gradually wake up. There are five or six on the stage, and they sing a sort of lullaby. And then the harlequin appears in Punchinello Land, and falls in love with one of the girls. After that there is a variety of songs, quartettes, imitations, and burlesques, and that sort of thing; and Harlequin at the end takes the girl away to Harlequin Land, wherever that may be. (Laughter.) The last chorus is entitled, "Sleep and forget." There are many things we want to sleep on and forget. (Laughter.) Then comes the sunset, and the Punchinellos go to sleep again.

Witness added that he was at Cardiff when he received Mr. Butt's letter of Feb. 22, and he immediately forwarded it to his solicitors.

Cross-examined by Mr. Smith, Mr. Pelissier said he did not remember asking Mr. Butt on the occasion of his first visit to take the Follies at £700 a week.

His Lordship: Would that be a fair price — Yes; I do not think I should have asked as much as that.

Witness said he thought that £500 would have been a fair sum. At the time of the interview the second Follies company—the Vaudeville—had concluded an engagement at about £130 a week. Papier mache bells were introduced.

Further questioned by Mr. Smith, witness said it was at first his intention to have real bells rung on the stage during the opening chorus, and he authorised Mr. Demanche to tell Mr. Butt that he intended having them.

Did you say that the real bells would be an attractive feature, and would cost £70 or £80, as they would have to be specially cast? Yes; but I attached no importance to the bells, and had no idea that Mr. Butt did. We are not bell-ringers, but singers. (Laughter.)

Eventually, said plaintiff, papier mache bells were hung on the stage and tubular bells played by the orchestra.

His Lordship: Did you try to get a tune out of the papier mache bells? (Laughter.)—No.

Replying to further questions by counsel, plaintiff said the weekly salaries of the artistes, plus commission, were £25 for one, £13 for another, and £5 for the others.

COST OF THE PRODUCTION.

Mr. Smith: The cost of production was somewhere about £500, and from that £160 was paid to Mr. Demanche, and a further £30 for a photograph and posters?—I do not know if those are the figures.

Do you suggest that the balance of £320 is sufficient for the production at the "Palace" of an elaborate and costly entertainment?—That figure does not include salaries.

Mr. Smith suggested that £1,000 would be more like the sum required.

His Lordship: £1,000 on any folly you like. (Laughter.)

Mr. Henry Demanche, theatrical and entertainment agent, said that during 1911 he acted as Mr. Pelissier's agent. He had several interviews with Mr. Butt about the engagement.

It is going to be suggested that you said that most expensive artiste would be engaged?—I did not say anything of the kind. I said they would be good.

His Lordship: Are most expensive artistes always the best?—Not always. (Laughter.)

Further examined, witness denied that he told Mr. Butt that the production would cost at least £1,000. He saw every performance, and the first show at the "Palace" was very successful. The artistes received three calls.

His Lordship: There is no claque in England now, is there?—Well, I should not like to say there was not.

Mr. Smith (cross-examining): Was Mr. Butt constantly attempting to cut down the show?—Only on one occasion.

Did he ever say, "It is a disgraceful show, and you defrauded me by bringing such a performance here"?—No.

Re-examined, witness said he never warranted that real bells would be used. Mr. Pélissier employed good artistes, and the show was a good one.

After the luncheon interval, his lordship observed that, seeing who the parties were, he had hoped that they would have utilised the time to see if they could come to an arrangement. He should be very glad if they could do so.

Upon this a consultation took place between counsel, but in the end Mr. Marshall Hall intimated that he was afraid terms could not be arranged.

Mr. Hugh Wright, principal comedian in the Punchinello troupe, said the show appeared to go very well with the audience at the Palace. He heard of no complaint during the first week; but on the Monday of the second week he was asked to cut it down, but this he refused to do without Mr. Pelissier's authority. He heard of no complaint from the management during the eight weeks. Just now he was appearing in "Kill that Fly!" at the Alhambra.

FRED LESLIE'S DAYS.

Cross-examined by Mr. Smith, witness said that Mr. Butt had told him that the burlesque was the best he had seen since Fred Leslie's days; but witness added that he was not so conceited as to take all the praise to himself. (Laughter.)

Replying to his lordship, Mr. Marshall Hall said that Fred Leslie was contemporary with Nellie Farren.

His Lordship: I am sorry I had forgotten Fred Leslie. If I had died first he would probably have forgotten me. (Laughter.)

Mr. John Bull, a scenic artist, said that the best artistes did not always require a lot of expensive scenery.

His Lordship: Was there not a Mr. Crummles who had a most valuable piece, but whose whole scenery was a pump and a tub. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: The vanished man would require even less. (Laughter.)

Mr. Marshall Hall: When he had vanished he would require still less. (Laughter.)

Witness said he sent Mr. Pelissier some estimates, but he was never asked for an estimate of real bells. He came to the conclusion that real bells were impracticable.

Asked whether his business was that of a scenic painter or of metal caster, witness replied: By profession I am a scenic artist, but I do anything that is required on the stage.

His Lordship: Suppose Mr. Pelissier had insisted on having real bells you would have got them for him.

Witness: Yes, my lord.

His Lordship: If he had wanted a real battleship would you have got it for him? (Laughter.)

Witness: I think I might have done. (Laughter.)

Mr. Marshall Hall: If Mr. Winston Churchill could have spared him one. (Laughter.)

Mr. A. J. Barclay, theatrical manager, said he considered "The Punchinellos" a very artistic show and quite amusing.

Mr. F. E. Smith, in opening the case for the defence, contended that Mr. Butt was induced to agree to pay £200 a week by misrepresentations. Mr. Butt was impressed by the elaborate scale of expenditure which he was told was being made. Mr. Demanche said that at least £1,000 would be expended, and that real bells would be used. The performance was one that Mr. Butt would not have touched had he known its real character.

His Lordship, on adjourning the case, expressed the hope that the parties would make another attempt to come to terms.

The hearing was resumed on Thursday, when Mr. Alfred Butt, managing-director of the Palace Theatre (examined by Mr. Smith), said he had had about thirteen years' experience of music halls. He remembered having an interview with Mr. Pélissier in October of 1911. Mr. Pélissier said he had an idea for a new form of entertainment, and that as he had very pleasant recollections of their many business associations, he thought he would come and explain it to him. He thought he could create a new troupe to give an entertainment on the lines of the original Follies, but at the same time quite distinct, and he was of opinion that if it was played at the Palace there would be no reason why it should not be made a permanent feature. Mr. Pélissier then told him that Mr. Hugh Wright, a very clever comedian, who was playing in the Vaudeville Follies at the time, could be secured for the new piece, which he proposed to call "The Punchinellos." Mr. Pélissier said he intended to have very fine scenery, that he would spare no expense as regarded that—that he would engage really fine artistes in addition to Mr. Hugh Wright; that the costumes would be really fine; that Mr. Hugh Wright was capable of writing very good lyrics, and that he had one or two tame poets that he could turn on to keep the show up to date

NOVEL IDEA.

Witness said he always had great confidence in Mr. Pélissier, and he thought the idea an excellent one. He told Mr. Pélissier that the new piece would have to be something much more costly and much finer than the Vaudeville Follies. With this Mr. Pélissier entirely agreed, and he said:—

"I am going to introduce an awfully novel idea. I think it would be a very good idea to have the roof all hung with real bells."

With regard to the terms witness suggested £130 a week, and Mr. Pélissier said he would agree to that, and would come for eight weeks. Witness, however, replied that he could not give him more than four weeks, but added that if the piece was a success it could stay longer. They accordingly agreed on four weeks, at £130 a week.

Mr. Smith: Was that a perfectly definite agreement?—Absolutely. The only thing left for subsequent decision was the date when the piece should be produced.

Witness said that on Nov. 20 or 21 Mr. Demanche (Mr. Pélissier's agent) came to see him, and stated that Mr. Pélissier now found that it was impossible to accept only £130 a week, and suggested £200. Witness expressed astonishment, and said he had never heard of such a thing as paying £200 a week for an unknown troupe of this description. Mr. Demanche assured him that the scenery alone was going to cost £400; that there would be Mr. Hugh Wright; and that there would be five or six other artistes who would be paid £10 a week and upwards. He said that, in addition, the costumes would be expensive, and that there would be two or three changes; and then, he added, there was this idea about the bells. Witness said he liked that idea, as he thought it rather clever. Mr. Demanche said they had found that they could not buy the bells, and that they would have to get them specially made. He could not say definitely what the bells would cost, but he thought not less than £15 or £20 each. Witness said he did not like the proposition of £200 per week, upon which Mr. Demanche remarked that Mr. Pélissier was going to risk £1,000 for the whole thing, and surely witness could do the same.

The next day, added witness, Mr. Pélissier called upon him. Witness expressed to him his astonishment at the suggestion that £200 per week should be paid for "The Punchinellos" instead of £130. Mr. Pélissier said he had gone minutely into the matter, and that it was absolutely impossible to do it under.

Witness said he saw "The Punchinellos" on the opening night and on subsequent nights, "but not more often than I was obliged." (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: What about the artistes?—With the exception of Mr. Hugh Wright, whom I had stipulated for, and who is a most excellent comedian, the artistes were of a very mediocre quality, and totally unsuitable for a first-class production such as I anticipated getting, and were receiving salaries such as were usually paid to people in the chorus. I do not pay my first or second turn such salaries.

Having regard to the scale of salaries at the Palace, were the salaries paid to these artistes on the scale usually paid in West End houses?—They were salaries for which I am perfectly certain you cannot reasonably expect to get really competent performers.

What about the scenery?—The scenery of its kind was quite all right, but it was not very costly; it was very ordinary scenery. There was nothing attractive about it.

Was it scenery upon which anyone could possibly spend £400?—No.

Were "The Punchinellos" an attraction at all at the Palace?—Certainly not.

His Lordship: How can you tell?

Witness: It is very difficult to say how you can tell, but you can see by the feeling of the audience, and you can tell by the general opinion. Certainly the business at the Palace during the whole of the period that "The Punchinellos" were there was worse than usual. During three weeks out of the eight I actually lost money.

Continuing, Mr. Butt said he was positive he did not discuss the piece with Mr. Demanche on the first night. He thought it only fair that he should first see it again. The second time he saw it rather confirmed the opinion he had already formed with regard to it. He told Mr. Demanche that he considered it a perfectly disgraceful performance; that Mr. Demanche had absolutely defrauded him by misrepresenting the whole thing; and that he was disgusted. Mr. Demanche asked what was wrong with it. Witness replied that everything was wrong; that the whole thing was commonplace, and that he could pick up a troupe like that for £65 a week any day.

TAKEN OFF THE FREE LIST.

Witness added: I said:

The scenery is commonplace, and what artistes have you given me? None at all, except Hugh Wright.

What novelty have you given us, and what about your boasted bells? Where are the wonderful effects? You have put up a lot of twopenny-halfpenny bells that one could get from a Christmas tree. I do not like that sort of thing at the Palace. I consider that you grossly misrepresented the whole thing.

You have behaved so badly and so dishonestly that I do not want you in here at all, and I wish you would get out.

I subsequently told my acting-manager to take Mr. Demanche's name off the free list.

On Feb. 22 witness wrote Mr. Pélissier, who was then in Cardiff, complaining bitterly about "The Punchinellos," and saying that under the circumstances his directors could not see their way to paying more than the original sum of £130 per week. This sum was accordingly offered at the end of the first week, but refused.

Mr. Marshall Hall (cross-examining): Do you suggest that Mr. Pélissier and Mr. Demanche have defrauded you?—I say that they misrepresented the matter, and if that is legal fraud, yes.

Why, if you attached so much importance to these bells, did not you insert a clause in the contract to the effect that they should be real bells?—If I had to put that in, why should I not put in everything else that Mr. Pélissier told me?

Witness said that £200 was first mentioned by Mr. Demanche when he came to see him on Nov. 20 or 21. The agreement for £130 a week was then a definite fixed agreement.

Mr. Marshall Hall: If it was a fixed agreement, why did you write to Mr. Pélissier:

You will remember that the original figure discussed for the show between us was £130 a week.

You see you say "discussed." Why did not you write and say, "You remember you agreed to do this for £130"?—But he had not agreed to do that at all for £130 a week, but something entirely different.

Something much better?—Much better.

According to your case, Mr. Pélissier had agreed to do something even better than he did for £130 a week?—Yes.

Do you say this was a bad production?—I do not say it was a bad production. I should not be so stupid as to say that. I do say it was a commonplace, ordinary production, and not suitable for the Palace Theatre. It was an ordinary troupe, such as you could get for £60 or £70 per week.

Mr. Marshall Hall called attention to the fact that several newspapers had spoken in complimentary terms of "The Punchinellos."

Witness replied that there was no reason why "The Punchinellos" should not have an ordinary good notice. Troupes for whom he had paid £60 or £70 per week got an ordinary good notice. He simply said that this was not a costly production, unique in character, as he had been led to expect it would be. He told Mr. Hugh Wright that it was an abominable show with the exception of his numbers, which were exceedingly good. If Mr. Wright said he did not complain to him of the show he was telling an untruth.

"ALL RIGHT AT A PRICE."

Mr. John Heywood, booking representative at the Palace Theatre, said he saw "The Punchinellos" at the Finsbury Empire, and thought the performance was "all right at a price, but not the price the Palace was paying."

Cross-examined: The price he put on the performance was £75 a week.

Mr. Thomas Ernest Polden, chairman of the Palace Theatres (Limited), and a director for twenty years, thought the performance at Finsbury was poor, except Mr. Wright's part, and it struck him as being cheap—worth about £80 a week. Mr. Pélissier admitted to him that the ladies were poor and "off," and said he would change them and get better voices, so that they would not know the performance for the same when it opened at the Palace. The Palace performance was practically the same, although there were two new chorus ladies.

Mr. J. A. E. Malone, of the Adelphi Theatre, and associated with Mr. George Edwardes in the production of many Gaiety musical comedies, described the show as very indifferent. When a producer spent £1,000 upon a fortnight's engagement he did not expect to get his £1,000 back in that time, but the future successes, if there were successes, compensated him. The least salary that chorus ladies got was £2, and they rose to £4, according to the length of time they had been at the theatre.

Cross-examined: They received the same salaries on tour.

Your ladies do not buy their own clothes?—No. Two pounds ten shillings a week would not pay for feathers alone, would it?—No. (Laughter.)

What was "The Punchinellos" worth?—I should be sorry to give £100 for it.

Mr. Julian Wylie, theatrical agent, thought the performance was a very ordinary one. He priced it at from £70 to £80 a week.

Cross-examined: He was a middleman, and took 10 per cent. commission on the bookings he secured for artistes.

Mr. Harry Masters, dramatic agent, and formerly general-manager of the London Theatres of Varieties, put the price at the same figure.

His Lordship: How do you account for the writers in the newspapers expressing such different opinions to yours?

Witness: Different people have different ideas for different halls. (Laughter.)

Mr. Howell, formerly London manager for H. B. Marinelli (Ltd.), and now with the Variety Controlling Company, valued the performance at not more than £100 a week for the Palace.

Without leaving the box, the jury found in favour of Mr. Pélissier, for whom judgment was accordingly entered.

Mrs. Morgan, widow of the late Mr. William Morgan, thrice Mayor of Scarborough, and director of the Aquarium there and other places of entertainment, has died at Bournemouth.

At the Electric Pavilion, Rotherham, on Wednesday, there was a farewell complimentary benefit given to Mr. Arthur E. Melborne, the resident-manager, who is shortly to leave Rotherham after two years' management of this hall. There were several special attractions and songs were rendered by Miss Sylvia Sinclair.

Saturday, the 22nd inst., will be a grand gala night at the Crystal Palace Theatre, for Mr. J. Bannister Howard will take his annual benefit, when many popular and favourite stars have positively promised to appear, these including that greatest of favourites Miss Venie Clements, Miss Molly Wynne, Miss Doris Lee, and other members of this year's pantomime; Miss Maud Hamilton and Miss Muriel Evelyn, and Messrs. Alf Passmore, Wheeler and Berkeley, Herbert Godfrey, etc. Others who hope to appear include Mr. Johnnie Schofield and Miss Florence Hersee, Mr. Paddy Dupres, and numerous others. It is expected that there will be a packed house, for these gala nights are always successful at the Palace. For Easter Monday and during that week they have secured that famous drama, "Two Little Vagabonds."

The Crystal Palace and its extensive gardens will prove very inviting on Easter Monday, for not only will endless amusement be found in the grounds—an ideal park—but in the building there will be amusement everywhere. Two grand variety shows, including the Carriols, Mlle. Illona, the Four Stanlinis, Adkin, Tilbury and Vere, and the Yentoys, nine Guards' military bands, including the Coldstream Guards, a massed band concert, two performances of "Two Little Vagabonds," organ recitals on the Handel organ, cinematograph side-shows, and a Southern League match between Crystal Palace and Bristol Rovers, to say nothing of skating on the mammoth asphalt rink.

VARIETY LAW.

"HURRY UP, PLEASE."

On Tuesday, at Clerkenwell County Court, an action was brought by Selina Edwards, married woman, of Liverpool-street, Islington, against the London Theatre of Varieties, Limited, of Charing Cross-road, for £30 as damages for personal damages.

Mr. Moyses remarked that the accident to plaintiff happened at an historic hall in Upper-street, Islington. It was the building formerly used by the Mohawk Minstrels. It afterwards became a music hall, and was now a picture palace.

Plaintiff said she attended the seven o'clock entertainment at the palace in question on the night of Oct. 21. On leaving the hall after the performance she was holding her little boy's hand as they were descending the steps. The attendants were hurrying people down from the top landing, and calling out, "Hurry up! Pass out please." This caused the people behind to crowd upon her and her boy. The latter lost his balance and in trying to save him she fell down several stairs. She sustained injury to her forehead, and her right wrist and thumb were sprained. As a result of the injury she had since been unable to follow her occupation, and was still attending a hospital as an out-patient.

For the defence, an attendant who was standing at the top of the stairs, said that whilst the people were descending his attention was drawn to plaintiff, who was at the bottom of the small staircase. He asked her what was the matter. She replied that someone had knocked her purse from her hand, or she had lost it.

Plaintiff said that in falling she lost her purse. She did not attempt to stoop to pick it up, as the crowding behind her was too great. She reported the accident to defendant's manager, and afterwards went to the University College Hospital.

The Judge, addressing the jury, said it was not a question whether it was improper to call out, "Hurry up, please!" but, having regard to the condition of affairs, as the people were leaving whether the attendants called out to an unnecessary extent. If the crowding resulted from the calling out of "Hurry up, please!" by the attendants, then defendants would be liable for the accident to plaintiff.

The jury found in favour of plaintiff, and awarded £20 damages.

Mr. Trotter, counsel for defendants, submitted that there was no reasonable evidence on which the jury could find for plaintiff. If the measures taken for clearing a hall, by calling out "Hurry up, please!" were held to be negligent and anything went wrong, it became a serious matter for picture palace proprietors.

His Honour: In this audience there were nearly 500 children. What might be a perfectly reasonable measure for clearing the hall of adults might have a different effect upon children. I do not think I can say there was no reasonable evidence on which the jury could find as they have found.

Judgment was entered on the jury's verdict, with costs.

Replying to Mr. Trotter, his Honour said he would give leave to appeal on the money being brought into court.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

On Monday Miss Jessie Player's song recital took place at the Rehearsal Theatre. Miss Player's rendering of the "Jewel" song, from "Faust," and other keenly enjoyed numbers, proved her to be a very accomplished vocalist.

At a matinée trial show at the Empire, Shoreditch, on Saturday last, a very successful appearance was made by Miss Alma Victor. This lady's rendering of "Sweet Irish shamrock" was so loudly applauded that she was obliged to return and give another song.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Home desires to thank Mrs. O'Brien, of Rule's, Maiden-lane, for box collection of £1 13s. (including donation of 10s.), and Camberwell Empire, 11s. 6d.

An excellent programme of Kinemacolor pictures at the Scala Theatre this week is preceded by a delightful entertainment rendered by Mr. Haskoll and Miss Edith Serpell entitled "Two and a Piano," which was recently enjoyed at the Queen's Theatre.

Arthur Gallimore and company return to town after four weeks' provincial tour and open at the Surrey and Empire, Camberwell.

Miss Gipsy Leigh, after a most successful provincial engagement, has now returned to London, and is this week repeating her success at the Canterbury.

Barclay Gammon almost stops the programme at the Palace, so great a "riot" does he create with a parody on the popular "I want to be in Dixie," which the unique Gammon transforms into a local habitation and a name—"I want to be in Camberwell."

The London Opera House is now closed, chiefly for the purpose of having certain structural alterations effected behind the curtain and for the preparation of the revue with which the house will re-open after Easter. The present title for the revue is "A Rag-time Revel." It will be in three scenes, and will be written by Max Pemberton, with lyrics by Harry Williams and music by Louis Hirsch, the composer of the "Gaby Glide," and Nat D. Ayer, who is now appearing at the Tivoli. Among the American principals engaged are Perle Barti, Grace Washburn, Bessie Clifford, Margaret Mudge, Helen Vincent, Claudia Carlstadt Wheeler, Oscar Schwartz, Charles Morgan, Arthur Deagon, Eddie Miller, Gene Hodgin, Olga Unniver, and Frank Sturgis. Mr. Gus Sohlke, who will produce the revue, is busy rehearsing.

"The Era" Annual, which has just made its appearance, fully maintains the qualities, usefulness, and interest which have characterised the issue for a number of years past. The productions and revivals in the English theatres and music-halls are given in detail with the full casts, and there are also useful lists of the important new plays and revivals in Paris, Berlin, and New York. As usual, many leading members of the profession have contributed interesting stories or anecdotes, and each is accompanied by autographed portrait of the authors.—"Birmingham Daily Post," Feb. 12, 1913.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 9).

KING'S.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—At the top of a capitally diversified bill is Mr. Alfred Lester in "The Village Fire Brigade," the humour of which provokes continuous laughter. Next in importance are John and Mat Burke, the clever American comedy duo. Capt. Frank Taylor's dog and monkey actors present a wonderful act in "The Monkey's Funeral" and the comical talking policeman. Torini, the juggler, has a style of his own. Muriel Evelyn, the gipsy violinist, charms with her music. Song has a delightful exponent in Miss Victoria Campbell. Ventriloquism is an amusing feature as practised by Gulliver. Arthur Barat's balancing performance rivets attention. Roya and Regan are dancers worthy of applause.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—"As Your Hair Grows Whiter" is being presented this week by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company. Miss Agnes Collier was at her best as Alice Walters, the injured girl, whilst Mr. Edwin Martin in the part of her devoted lover was excellent. Miss Florence Dalmar and Mr. George Wallace as Alice's parents played their parts to perfection.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Geo. Harris.—The ordinary vaudeville entertainment has given way this week to John Tiller's grand spectacular ballet, "Lively Lucerne," staged in three elaborate scenes, with a well-dressed chorus of sixty, who sang and danced to bright and sparkling music arranged for the occasion. It is a long time since such an excellent show has been submitted here. The chief characters were sustained with efficiency by James Rous (Patrick O'Flynn), May Blossom (Maggie O'Flynn), Doris Cooke (Norah), J. J. Dallas (Marmaduke Montgomery). Leslie Cliff (Viscount Highlow), Elizabeth Wieland (Pimpernel), and Joe Desmond (The Goat). The vocalism of Doris Cooke was a feature. The eight little drummer girls likewise came in for abundant applause. The final international ballet was a particularly brilliant spectacle.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; S., Mr. W. Pratt.—The fourteen Tromboniers, under the charge of Chattoway and Hill, hold pride of place in the Empire programme, and their performances are being applauded with more than ordinary enthusiasm. Bedini and Bedini are excellent in their comedy juggling act. Fergus Leslie and Co. submit their thrilling dramatic episode, "The Lie," with every success. Dave Bryant has one of the best receptions. A lengthy film of the Royal Procession taken in London in the afternoon was shown at the second house on Monday.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg." The cast includes: Mr. Ralph Roberts, Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Edwin Oxler, Mr. Dundas Walker, Mr. Lacy Mills, Mr. Ernest Norris, Mr. Norman Brown, Mr. A. Traile, Mr. Alec Johnstone, Mr. Ernest Wellesley, Mr. R. Graham, Mr. Nigel Barrie, Miss Vere Sinclair, Miss Lina Hicks, Miss Elsa Twemlow, Miss Marguerite Vernon, Miss Marguerite Edgley, Miss Irene Crammond, Miss Nancy Mortimer, Miss Eva Hertz, Miss Marjorie Gresham, Miss J. Rutter, Miss Mercy June, Miss Gertie Anderton, Miss Mabel Twemlow. Matinée, Thursday.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson; A. M., Mr. Albert J. Bolton.—This week: Mr. E. R. Abbott's company in "The Sins of the Rich" and "Sapho." The cast includes: Mr. Edwin Keene, Mr. John Johnstone, Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown, Mr. Ivor C. Gould, Mr. H. C. Brodie, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott, Miss Isabel Singleton, Miss Winifred Rutland, Miss Annie Morgan, Miss Mattie Everett, Miss Cecile Rene, Miss E. Crowther, Miss Ada Abbott, Mr. Stephen Crossley, Mr. John Faber, Mr. D. Pentland, Mr. Charles Tring, Mr. Cecil Bent, Mr. H. Beale, Miss Mary Douglas, Miss Rose Duncan. Matinée, Thursday.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. F. E. Burdett.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Granville's company in "At the Mercy of the Mormons." Cast includes: H. P. Sullivan, Edwin Davies, W. O. Rossiter, Harry Beverley, John Leahair, Margaret Brinsley, Forbes Dawtrey, Ambrose Pinder, Jerold E. Reed, James Mailey, Alice Maude, Hazel Dent, Constance Medwyn.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr. Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week (twice nightly, and Monday matinée): Charles T. Aldrich, the man of many parts; D'Armand and Carter, American comedy duo; Lloyd and Lane, the merry buskers; Rich and Rich, racy comedians; Bert Weston, comedian; Elsie Robey, pianologuedienne; J. P. Carroll, soldier tambourinist; Jewel St. Leger, songstress and concertinist; May Poulton, chorus comedienne; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. Wm. Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. J. Boyle.—This week (twice nightly): Max Erard's company in "Shepherdland"; Cling and Clancy, comedians; Leo Andres, dancing speciality; Four Tresillians, acrobats; Dawson Dewick in songs; Jaap Van Laren, slack-wire act; Oliver Conroy, comedian; Ada Fawn, comedienne.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. W. J. Attack.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Jack White and company, in sketch, "What Her Husband Saw"; Reeve and Moreton, vocalists and dancers; Judge's performing cockatoos; and pictures.

KING'S THEATRE.—M., Mr. R. Crow.—This week (twice nightly): The Firmans, in sketch, "The Fire Station"; Brothers Bennett, Sadie Mitchell, Kentucky Trio in "Down South"; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Archibald L. Pareezer.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company with "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Miss Alice Coverick, Miss Maggie Gorman, Miss Florence Hylton, Mr. Viliers Arnold, Mr. Charles Sims, Mr. Harry Cross, Mr. Walter Williams, Mr. Harry Barnetto, Mr. G. Collings, Mr. F. C. Page, Miss D. E. Pritchard, Miss Gladys Gregory, Mr. W. A. Harris, Mr. C. W. Hoddy, and Miss Carrie Scott.

ROYAL PAVILION.—Sole P., Mr. Albert Wilkinson.—This week: Athelda, champion strong lady; Mr. Ernest A. Batting, character vocalist; and pictures.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Bode and Compton.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Dottridge, Longden and Liell present "Kit Carson." T. M., Mr. Bernard Liell. The company includes: Mr. John S. Millward, Mr. Chas. H. Longden, Mr. Edward Vivian, Mr. Henry Deane, Mr. Victor Knight, Mr. Bernard Liell, Mr. W. Leighton, Mr. Bert Hacking, Mr. Stanley Wilton, Miss Jeannie Weston, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh, Miss Marie Longden, and Miss Georgette Thierry. Next week: "A Waltz Dream."

PALACE.—P., The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Lawrence Barclay, comedian; Maggie Benson; Rose Hamilton and company, in "Jack Sheppard"; J. J. Mannix, the coffee-coloured coon; O'Hanlon and Rukin, comedy duo; Winsome Drummond, soprano; Edith Tudora's ponies; Doreen O'Conner and company, in "The Future Lady Watteau"; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman Robinson.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The company includes: Mr. Wilfrid Caithness, Mr. Wilfred Eaton, Mr. Fernley Bisshopp, Mr. C. Probyn Dighton, Mr. B. M. Hallward, Mr. Charles Field, Mr. Bert Rouen, Mr. George Hewetson, Miss Nellie Griffen, Miss Lynn Fontanne, Miss Mary Lincoln, Miss Bertha Wilkinson, Miss Alice M. Maude, and Miss Violet Gibbs. T. M., Mr. E. Taylor Platt. Next week: "A Mother's Love."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., The Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, sen.—This week: [illegible]sy Graham and company, with troupe of per[illegible]ing birds; Johnny Fuller, assisted by Ada [illegible] in act, "Mrs. Edwards and her cat"; Jean [illegible]der, in impressions of music-hall stars; [illegible]nd Ralph Howard, the military couple; [illegible]alter T. Simmon's company, in "The [illegible] child"; Jack Whitham of Shaw, bo[illegible] vocalist; Arthur Prince, ventriloquist, presents "The sailor boy" and "The Jockey's Dream"; Flying Julians; and capital pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—S.L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R.M., Mr. Jas. Pringle.—This week: Newman and Knight, the juggler and the maid; Jack Judge, comedian; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. W. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Scott.—This week: Earle and Melville, comedians and dancers; Arthur Clifton, chorus comedian; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., The North of England Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. John Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Mr. Morton Powell's company in "The Two Little Vagabonds." The cast includes: Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. Frank Fordham, Mr. Guy Routh, Mr. H. Hesslegrave, Mr. Philip Garry, Mr. Harry Leamar, Mr. Percy Strange, Mr. Francis Amphill, Mr. T. Blake, Mr. Johnnie Powell, Mr. G. Garside, Miss Ethel Kay, Miss Mona Hall, Miss Kate Perowne, Miss Carrie Nico, Miss Dora Diehl, Miss Eva Lumley, and Miss Rossie St. John.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. George E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. William Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Millar.—This week: Duncan's Royal Scotch collies; Miss Sylvia Cavallo and company in "The Husband of Peggy"; the Stork Brothers, gymnasts; Ally Benson, dame comedian; Irene Armitage, vocalist; Melt and Bray, comedians; the Musical McGregors; and Rich Hayes. An added attraction is "Bobby" Leach, the man who successfully negotiated Niagara Falls in a barrel.

RUGBY.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Sandy MacNab, in "Pharaoh"; Hylda Lethwaite, mezzo-soprano vocalist; and pictures.

RUSHDEN.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. A. W. Thompson.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "The Lifeguardsman"; on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Kittie Stuart and Players in musical mélange; Bonny Hilda Mostyn, comedienne; Neville Delmer, comedian; the Menzies in "That Talkative Party"; and pictures.

RYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Terry Wood; M. D., Mr. Kerner.—This week (twice nightly): Consul, the almost human; Lillie Granville, comedienne; and pictures.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P. & M., Mr. E. B. Goulden.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): "Somebody's Sweetheart." Cast includes: Jack McKenzie, Edward Rawlinson, Bernard Mervyn, George Power, T. E. Orriston, Miss Doris Williams, Miss Maizie Leon, Miss Stella Miller, Miss Edie James, Miss Dora Selby, Miss Hilda Knight, Miss Ada Reed, Miss Viola Rene.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. Henry Hearn.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Cecilia Dare presents, Monday and Saturday, "Masks and Faces"; Tuesday matinée and evening and Thursday evening, "A Snug Little Kingdom"; Wednesday, "Sowing the Wind"; Friday, "A Mother of Three." The company includes: Arthur Newman, Mr. Howard Hardy, Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. Walter J. Moss, Mr. Conrad Heywood, Mr. C. Milley Doyle, Mr. Hyam Twyson, Mr. T. Norman, Miss Ada Band, Miss Cissie Ashley, Miss Cecilia Dare, Miss Lena Tarver, Miss Maude Leslie-Cudd, Miss Rose Banques. T. M., Mr. Conrad Heywood. Matinee, Tuesday, at 2.30.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney L. Hampton. — This week: Russell and Held, American entertainers, Brothers Roberts, dancers; Ernie Crossley; Four Clovelly Girls, club swingers; Doris Mathews; Harry Taft, comedian and whistler; "Ferdie's Ma-in-law," supported by Charles North and Dora Price; and The O'Malleys, comedians. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.30.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar; Lecturer, Mr. Edwin De Frece.—Mr. Tom Sherlock in illustrated songs and pictures, twice-nightly, and matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Special trial turn matinée on Wednesday for amateurs and professionals.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—P., the United Electric Theatres (London), Ltd; M., Mr. Joe Bardsley.—Miss Ada Seale, vocalist; and pictures. Twice nightly and matinées (Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday).

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Wm. Peacock; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins.—Closed this week.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Waddington and Son; M., Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—This week: Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company in "If I were King," "The Taming of the Shrew," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," "The Merchant of Venice," and "Hamlet."

THE AQUARIUM.—M. D. & S., Mr. Walter Kitchingman; Asst. S., Mr. H. Bench; Mus. D., Mr. Alf Candler.—This week: The Crisps, in "Promenade Palaver"; Ethel Thomas, vocalist; Billy Wesley, comedian; Sisters Holman, vocalists and dancers; Billy Rogers, in "The Labour Leader"; and Rochester's Six Boot Blacks, in "A Dude's Rehearsal."

SCUNTHORPE.

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre (Scunthorpe), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. A. E. Dobney.—This week (twice nightly): Three Flying Winskills, in pirouette performance; Ellis and Beachcroft, gentlemen of leisure; Little Toy Anita, child comedienne; Clara Reid and John Power, in "The Chambermaid"; Cyrus Dare, child entertainer; Sims Woolley, eccentric comedian; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—Licensee, Mr. W. W. Johnson; M., Mr. J. Connelly.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Priddoe, ventriloquist; Olitzka Madison, the Dutch doll; James Rallis, animal impersonator; and pictures.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—Sole L., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Hamilton Warden; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hughes.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company present "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife." The cast includes: Mr. Percy Brown, Mr. Reginald Brown, Mr. Edward Franks, Mr. Cyril Grier, Mr. Cliff Deane, Mr. Syd. Hobson, Mr. Arthur Lowry, Mr. Harland Brookes, Mr. S. Kendal, Miss Ada Corri, Miss Vida Hazelwood, and Miss Kathleen Magee.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—There was a good house at the Lyceum on Monday, and hearty laughter filled the theatre during the performance of "The Glad Eye," by Mr. Louis Meyer's company. All the artistes acted in the proper farcical comedy spirit. That Sheffield favourite of many years' standing, Mr. Fred Eastman, was thoroughly at home in the amusing rôle of Chausette; and another popular local favourite, Mr. W. E. Richardson, acted in his accustomed humorous and unctuous manner as Galipaux. The ladies were chic and smartly dressed, and nothing more vivacious could be desired than the Lucienne of Miss Constance Hyem, the Suzanne Polignac of Miss Enid Sass, the Kiki of Miss Billie Sinclair, and the Juliette of Miss Adah Rothwell. Mr. Stanley Brett was good as Bocard; Mr. Percy Marmont was thoroughly appreciated as Maurice Polignac; and Mr. Derwent Grenville as Floquet, Mr. Tom Richardson as Tracassin, Mr. H. Madden as the Comte de Beauve, Mr. Sydney Sinclair as François, and Mr. Arthur Dennis as the Sergeant de Ville, were all successful. The curtain-raiser was "An Interrupted Divorce," by Fred Sargent. Next week: "The Younger Generation."

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst.-M., Mr. M. Mahoney.—Mr. Frank Lindo's interesting domestic drama, "His Child Wife," has proved quite to the taste of the Royal clientèle this week, and Mr. Lindo's striking individuality and powerful acting has been enthusiastically applauded. Miss Marion Wakeford, in the title rôle, acts with sympathetic earnestness; and the other characters are ably delineated by Mr. S. C. Venner as Mr. Mayne, Mr. T. Graham Smith as Capt. Fairholme, Mr. J. Soden as Crouch, Mr. Hal Dayne, Mr. Henry Seymour as Col. O'Neill, Mr. W. Somers as Lieut. Rivers, Mr. S. Dench, junr., as Mr. Denton, Mr. Arthur Hyam as Salem, Mr. Armstrong as Rawlins, Miss Kate Randolph as Flora Mayne, Miss Cissy Whitfield as Phœbe, and Miss Helena Fances as Mary Smithson. Next week: "The White Slaves of London."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. D. Forsdike; A. M. and T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Kimberley's company opened to a large audience on Monday in the strong and picturesque new romantic play, "The Wild Girl of the Forest." The capital military costumes and the artistic scenery and appointments were much admired, and the characters were all carefully represented by Mr. John A. Riley, Mr. George E. Butler, Mr. St. John Stuart, Mr. A. Branston, Mr. Esson, Mr. D. J. Bosher, Mr. W. Drury, Miss Helen McDell, Miss Winnie Breamer, Miss Dulcie Lawrence, and Miss Nana Fleesburg. Next week: "I Defy the World."

REPERTORY THEATRE.—The season came to an end on Saturday with a fine performance of Oscar Wilde's comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest."

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Another generous programme was submitted on Monday to a large audience, the artistes contributing being Messrs. Robert Macdonald and T. B. Young's company in the farcical musical comedy, "The River Girl"; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, in songs and dances; Mr. George Newburn, the popular imitator of well-known comic vocalists; the celebrated Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists, in a novel and graceful act; Mr. Jack Smiles, humorist; Miss Cicily Gray, a graceful and vivacious comedienne; Will Van Allen, "the musical tramp"; Lane and O'Donnell, in a laughable pantomimic-acrobatic performance; and the Empire artistic pictures. Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Gummiett.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—Miss Marie Studholme is the "star turn" here this week, appearing in the amusing musical skit, "Her Ladyship," supported by Miss Tiny Grattan, Mr. Walter Pearce, and "The Belle of New York" favourite, Mr. Cecil Burt. A novel and amusing entertainment is provided by Mlle. Rochez, with her brilliant model stage and monkey performers, in "The Monkey Music Hall"; Verno and Voyce submit their "vocal bits" of pathos and comedy; and the other artistes engaged this week are Capt. Jack Kelly and Miss Violet Kelly, Australian "stock-whip" experts; the Three Orleans, in a bright vaudeville entertainment; Mr. Tim Carlisle, comedian; Jean and Josie, in a unique act, "The Crocodile and the Lizard"; pictures; and Miss Lottie Lennox, the dashing serio-comic vocalist, in her latest chorus successes. Mus. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—G. M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—A good little company here this week includes the Paget Troupe, in a delightful musical performance, introducing "the concertina band," &c.; Miss Queenie May, with tuneful vocalism and popular ditties; and pictures.

BOSTOCK JUNGLE.—G. M., Mr. Harry Tudor.—Menagerie, arena, stage performance, and funfair at 2 and 7.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hickling.—This week (once nightly): Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson presents "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment." The company includes: Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, Mr. Sidney A. Monckton, Mr. Stanley W. Healey, Mr. Walter Parks, Mr. C. H. Henderson, Mr. S. Parkinson, Mr. J. B. Lewes, Mr. Cyril Harrison, Mr. Willie Hicks, Mr. Fred Connel, Miss Laurie Adair, Miss Tessa Myers, Miss Mysie Monte, Miss Alice Barber. T. M., Mr. Stanley W. Healey. Next week: "A White Slave."

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: Saltley and His Nibs, wire and comedy experts; Edie Lockhart, comedienne and sand dancer; Ford and Lang, comedians; Nellie Banks, comedienne; Jack Grew, comedian and dancer; the Ashbys, in "The Crazy Waiter"; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—P., Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: Wisper, juggler; Beattie Bloom, comedienne; Jerome and Jerome, comedians; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Southworth.—This week (twice nightly): Four Ascots, rag-time dancers; F. Ray presents the Eight Football Skating Girls; Thornbury, novelty entertainer; Mildred Parr, impressionist; Bish and Bish, comedy acrobats and boxers; Deane Tribune and Estelletia Correro, in "A Gay Deceiver"; Frederick Sylvester and company, hand balancers; Josephine La Barte, in songs at the piano; and pictures.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): J. Newton Cowling's company, in "The Collier's Lass." Cast includes: Mr. David Curtis, Mr. J. Dobson Clyde, Mr. Denbigh J. Douglas, Mr. J. Newton Cowling, Mr. Cyril Craven, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Easterbrooke, Mr. Fred Barnes, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Lynn Darlington, Miss Adele Liddon, Miss Mona Grey, Miss Muriel Dean. T. M., Mr. J. Newton Cowling.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter De Frece.; R. M., Mr. W. H. Lennon. This week: Dolane and Snowden, Historical Maniacs, Dorothy Leigh, in comedy songs; Benedetti Brothers, acrobatic clowns; Little Bella and Jules Terry, juvenile performers, in entertainment; Sam Richards presents "Venetia"; Terry Twins, duplicate comedians; Daisy Morrell, comedienne; Oswald Williams, illusionist, supported by Winifred La Barte; and pictures.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. G. Clarkson.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2): Mr. George Dance's company in "A Waltz Dream." Cast includes: Mr. Frederick Hearne, Mr. Edwin Brett, Mr. Harry B. Clark, Mr. Arthur Medwin, Mr. Jack Govan, Mr. Henry Brooke, Mr. Fred Pitt, Mr. Will Hindson, Miss Dorothy Moulton, Miss Josset Ellis, Miss Emmeline Orford, Miss Dorothy Waine, Miss Maud Lancaster, Miss Irene Bradbrook, Miss Maud Vyse, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Hilda Shepherd, Miss Madge Escolme, Miss Hilda Guiver. T. M., Mr. Robert Grey. Next week: "Gipsy Love."

PIER PAVILION.—L., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Herbert Landeck and company in "Son of a Jew"; Vera Caine, ball-punching and club-swinging act; the Sisters Reeve, vocalists; Bart and Bart, in acrobatic absurdity, "The Baggage Wreckers"; Rolando Martin, comedian and patterer; the Fitzroys, society gymnasts; Bert Castle, comedian; Will H. Fox, in trick-playing piano acts; and pictures.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Hopper.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Herbert Skardon presents "Death or Glory Boys." The company includes: Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Herbert Skardon, Mr. A. Edward Brook, Mr. Newton Pearce, Mr. Chas. Holmes, Mr. Joseph Harding, Mr. F. Kelsham, Mr. John Evered, Miss May Beatrice, Miss Lally Wynne, Miss Nancy Mitchell. Next week: "No Mother to Guide Her."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: Charles Austin and company, in "The Bombshell"; Gus Garrick, assisted by the Rushonoff Troupe of ragtime dancers; Max Franklin Troupe of acrobats; Mackintosh and Royal, dancers; Madeline Rossiter, comedienne and dancer; Lily Lister, comedienne and mimic; Jock Barrie, Scotch comedian; Orpheus, Instrumental speciality; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. J. W. Bainton.—This week: Marshall and Paer, in vocal comedy act; Little Doris, baby violinist; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lecturer and M., Mr. W. T. Bryant; Asst. M., Mr. R. H. Taylor.—This week: Howard and Collinson, in "Fun in a China Co"; Darius and his equilibrists; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES. — M., Mr. Maurice B. Elsey.—This week: Joey Sterling, comedian; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE.—L., Messrs. Alfred Burrows and Thomas Drewett; M. D., Mr. J. T. Dixon; M., Mr. Burrows.—This week: "The Old Folks at Home," presented by Messrs. Edward Lloyd's and Clifford Bown's company. The cast includes: Mr. Richard Ferris, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Basil Brabazon, Mr. Fred Lilleywhite, Mr. Bert Dench, Mr. Arthur Entwhistle, Mr. Arthur C. Crosby, and Mr. Sidney B. Sinclair, Miss Clara Santley, Miss Gertie Moody, Miss Edith Giddings, and Miss Claire O'Sullivan.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. R. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather; M. D., Mr. D. Hird.—This week: Brothers Obo; Two Zets; Broncho (pony); Texas and Flo; Sarraguna and Roma; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. & M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomas.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday): Mr. W. V. Garrod's company in "The Sledge-Hammer." Company includes: Messrs. Maxwell Davidson, Robert Gilbert, Carthage Caldclough, Charles Halling, F. S. Stewart, Owen Redmonde, Frank Dallas, John B. Murray, James Hart, Fred Dalton, Misses Mabel Durham, Jessie Yatman, and Maude Merrick. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. E. Taylor Platt's company in "Milestones." Company includes: Messrs. Gerald Mirrielees, J. Faries Moss, Grahame Herington, G. W. Ruff, Roy G. Beard, Alex. Clifton, Frank Rex, Charles F. Dixon, Misses Isabel Fladgate, M. Williams, Cynthia Burke, Hilda Gregory, Dorothy Hall, and Amy O'Donohoe.

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Stanley Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Mus. D., Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week (once nightly): George N. Ballanger presents "The Round-Up." Cast includes: Ray Raymond, Jas. Willoughby, Charles Levey, Alfred Grenville, Frank Harrison, Alfred Lafolle, F. Holyoake, G. Halsten, A. Hordsfield, W. S. Ford, S. Morris, Alfred Lovell, T. Leslie, H. W. Hall, G. Kickgate, H. Stanley, W. Heaton, F. Clough, B. Elmeall, Edgar Neville, Lewis Block, F. B. Kelly, Mercia Russell, Edith Giddens, Nora Kingsley, Rita Tomkins. M., Mr. Geo. E. Carleton.

VICTORIA.—P., Mr. T. C. Rawes.—This week (twice nightly): The Two Lillys, equilibrists; Guy Rider in "The Regimental Pet"; Brown and Martin in vocal scena; and pictures.

ELITE.—This week (twice nightly): The Toladonas in musical mélange; the Six Beryls, juvenile troupe; and pictures.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—This week: Ethel Van Praagh and I. Edward Whitby & Co. in "The Power of Gold" and "The Hand of Destiny." The cast includes: Mr. I. Edward Whitby, Mr. A. A. Leigh, Mr. G. Ellis, Mr. B. S. Chedburn, Mr. J. Corless, Miss May Nielson, Miss S. Duff, and Miss Ethel Van Praagh.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; A. M., Mr. Leo Weisker.—This week: "The Christian," presented by Derwent Hall Caine's company, which includes: Mr. Rayson Cousens, Mr. Ernest K. Nelson, Mr. E. J. Coyne, Mr. Charles Aldred, Mr. Albert Evremond, Mr. Arthur B. Hamilton, Miss Peggy Rae, Miss Lydia Bland, Miss Winnie Morgan, Miss Elaine Bragan, Miss M. Mentons, and Miss Elizabeth Dundas.

STIRLING.

ARCADE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Newman; M., Mr. Will Anderton; Mus. D., Mr. G. K. Hardie.—This week: Will Metta's Jockeys, in "At the Races"; Wee Freddie Craig, one-legged comedian and dancer; the Wilbert Lealand Trio, in "Fun on Board Ship"; and pictures.

OLYMPIA PALACE THEATRE.—P., Cal. Cinemato Co.; M., Mr. D. Stratton; Mus. D., Mr. G. Totton.—This week: Roma and Romane, musical act; Florrie Cooper, vocalist; Helen and Emilon, gymnasts; and pictures.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company in "The Hope." The company includes: Mr. Franklyn Bellamy, Mr. J. S. V. Leigh, Mr. R. S. Trelawey, Mr. Montague Weston, Mr. Harry Hardy, Mr. Frank Sealey, Mr. E. Clifford Cobbe, Mr. J. Michael Watson, Mr. John Baxter, Mr. Frank D'Esterre, Mr. Leslie J. Banks, Mr. V. Harbord, Mr. Bertram Phillips, Mr. Harry Phydora, Miss Enid G. Ford, Miss Hilda Vaughan, Miss Daisy Gwynne, Miss Rene Gordon, Miss Winifred Burke, Miss Freda Wharton, Miss Marjorie Lawton, and Miss Ivy Sheppherd.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Charles H. Lester presents "The Frontier Queen." The company includes: Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Henry Johnson, John Talford, Henry C. Gilpin, Henry Bowler, George Inwood, Chief Eagle Elk, Edward O'Grady, James Underwood, W. Murray Johns, Harry Field, A. W. Howson, A. Bancroft, Pat Van Iesher, James Stephenson, A. Mowbray, E. Harold, Reeves Hickton, Miss M. Majilton, Miss Dorothy Riddell, Miss Beatrice Anderson. T. M., Mr. Sydney C. Hill.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Beeson.—This week: Mr. Arthur Hinton presents "Allah's Orchard." Cast includes: Miss Florence Zillwood, Mr. Arthur Hinton, Mr. Mark Adams, Miss Pauline Haydon, Mr. Frank McClellan, Miss Annette, Mr. Arthur Keand.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company in "His Indian Wife." The company includes: Mr. Leonard Williams, Mr. William J. Rea, Mr. Harry Harrald, Master Charles Booth, Mr. H. C. Nerney, Mr. Charles Leonard, Miss Billy Garth, Miss May Greyce, Mr. Gibson Brooke, Mr. Gerald Byrne, Mr. Tod Squires, Mr. Arden Barne, Mr. Lionel Wicks, Miss Nelly Wilson, Miss Laura Wright, and Miss Irene Atchinson.

KING'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. C. W. Poole; Local M. Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: Brinn, balancer; Kenneth and Kane; Bert Lytton, light comedy artiste; and pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—"The Taming of the Shrew" was played at this house on Monday night by Mr. Martin Harvey and company before a large audience. The performance was splendid throughout, and keenly followed. In Petruchio, the irrepressible, the masterly and withal the ardent lover, Mr. Harvey has found a rôle which suits him equally as well as his previous parts, and he gave a fine rendering of the hero in all his moods. Katharine, the shrew, and ultimately the obedient wife, is played throughout with consummate skill by Miss N. de Silva. Mr. Eugene Wellesley acquits himself with much credit as Lucentio, and Mr. Albert E. Raynor is equally good as Baptista. Miss Annie Furrell gives a charming portrayal of Bianca, and Mr. Harry Paulton derives much subtle humour from the part of Grumio. Other valuable work also comes from Messrs. George Cooke (Christopher Sly), Chas. J. Cameron (Vincentio), Ernest Stidwell (Gremio), Franklyn Dyall (Hortensio), Gordon McLeod (Tranio), Denholm Muir (Biondello). The staging and scenery is of a highly artistic nature. "The Lowland Wolf" and "The Breed of the Treshams" are also being played during the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. Wm. Maclaren's company is playing here this week in the drama "Claudian," and drawing large houses. Mr. Maclaren gives his usual magnificent performance in the title-rôle, while Miss Lily Bandmann is deserving of the highest eulogy for her study of Almida. Mlle. Stella Dorin executes the famous cymbal dance with exceeding grace. The stage effects are cleverly carried out.

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—An intrepid equestrian performance is

WEST STANLEY.

ALBERT HALL.—L., Mr. Randall Williams; R. M., Mr. G. E. Routledge.—This week (twice nightly): Weaver and Westworth, comedians; and pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Will Gibson; Conductor, Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: Newell Bros., in acrobatic and musical act; the Elgars, soliets and duettists; Lees and Mona, in acrobatic speciality; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE.—L., Mr. Victor Branford; A. M., Mr. J. T. Hurst.—This week: Frederico and Edgardo, comedy acrobats; Sisters Hibbert, duettists; Bert Barker, comedians; and pictures.

ST. JAMES' ELECTRIC THEATRE.—S., Mr. Victor Halliwell.—This week: Phil Herman, comedian; La Clars, soprano vocalist; Barney Vox, ventriloquist; and pictures.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—P. & M., The Wigan Entertainment Co., Ltd.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Durrant Swan presents "A Country Girl." The company includes: Mr. Douglas Phillips, Mr. Leon Simkin, Mr. Percy Everard, Mr. Frank W. Manger, Mr. C. S. Cartwright, Mr. Clifford Barrett, Mr. A. H. Lopresti, Mr. Jack Slater, Mr. Herbert Jones, Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Arthur Staples, Miss Ivy Moore, Miss Ethel Negretti, Miss Florence Foster, Miss Paula Ferneau, Miss Lily Holden, Miss Maud Jennings, Miss Gertrude Borton, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Gwen Ross, and Miss Ivy Proudfoot. T.M., Mr. E. R. Beaumont. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Queen Mother."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., The Wigan Entertainment Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. G. Robertshaw.—This week (twice nightly): Ben Amasis, Egyptian mystic; the Merry Four, comedians and dancers; Norman, musician; the Gillettes; Augustin and Hartley, barrel jumpers; the Rangers, in comedy cycle act; Billy Rhodes, comedian; Mlle. Louise and Bruno Pitrot, acrobats; and pictures. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—This week (once nightly): F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company in "The Face at the Window." Cast includes: Mr. Roy Fortescue, Mr. Gilbert Hall, Mr. James Weston, Mr. Dallas H. Keand, Mr. Vivian Garton, Mr. Frederick Monckton, Mr. Arthur Chivers, Mr. Frank Holyoake, Mr. Arthur Hellier, Mr. William Yates, Mr. George Lockwood, Mr. Robert Hamilton, Mr. H. Harland, Miss Maudie Grayson, Miss Lillah Shelton, Miss Constance Glenabyn. T. M., Mr. F. C. Kimberley.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. H. Ketteman; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Thursfield.—This week (twice nightly): Percy Honri, in "Bohemia"; Gene Grove, the happy minstrel; Alice Morgan, comedienne; the Wilton Heriot Trio, in "Artful Alfred"; August, September, and May, comedians; and pictures.

WORDSLEY

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—L., Mr. B. Kennedy; M., Mr. Anthony Bayley.—This week: The Andersons, in musical tit-bits; Miss Laura Louise, vocalist; and pictures.

WORKSOP.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Mr. Cecil Clayton and Mr. Frank M. Thorne; R. M., Mr. Frank M. Thorne.—This week: Horace Stanley's company in "The 10.30 Down Express." The cast includes: Misses Kate Kilpack, Hilda Miller, Rose Beryl, Maggie English, Messrs. Harry Scott, Oswald Douglas, Arthur Chevvers, Stanley Field, Wm. Hayward, S. B. Brabazon, Thos. Dunn, T. W. Stead, Fred Seymour, Harry Loates, Wm. Aldreson, and Horace Stanley.

ROYAL ELECTRIC THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. A. Gibson.—This week: Capt. Alec Fox, ventriloquist, and Little Eva Linacre, child actress, in song, etc., and pictures.

YNYSHIR.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Terry; Mus. D., Miss M. Gunter.—This week: Ellerslie Pyne, and pictures.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. E. W. Silverthorne; Mus. D., Mr. J. Pelzer.—This week: Fredk. Melville presents "The Monk and the Woman." Cast: Mr. Ronald Adair, Mr. Willie Scott, Mr. Alfred C. Nightingale, Mr. Marius St. John, Mr. Harry Cullinford, Mr. Leonard Thackeray, Mr. Stanley Marsh, Mr. Frank Maurice, Mr. Robert Amble, Mr. Lewis Barton, Mr. Richard Raynor, Mr. Charles Olive, Mr. Lewin Mannering, Mr. Henry Peer, Mr. Claude Furgerson, Mr. Henry Morland, Mr. Frank Barrington, Mr. Fred Ting, Miss Mary Pemberton, Miss Margaret Tueskie, Miss Rita Rothwell, Miss Marie Stella, Miss Alice Mosley. T. M., Mr. Walter Pemberton. Next week: "A Waltz Dream."

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peacock; Mus. D., Mr. F. Kell.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno presents "Wakes Week"; the Raymond Trio, dancing act; Jack Edge, "Curly" of the pierrots; Jennie Johns, comedienne; Mabel and Cliff Diamond, singing and dancing act; Harry Clifford, comedian; Herbert Trio, vocalists; Fred Karno presents "Perkins, M.P."

"In the Pyrenees."

This picturesque coloured scenic, to be released on Thursday, March 27, by Gaumont Co., gives an excellent idea of the beauty of the Pyrenees, the panoramic view being taken from a car on the electric line from Villefranche-Vernet les Bains, to Bourg Madame. In leaving the first-named place, the traveller passes from the warmth of the Mediterranean, with its fig-trees and vines, and gradually ascends the high plateau of Cerdagne, where the climate and landscape are distinctly modified. The intervening scenery is of a wild type—a wildness which is emphasised by the absence of trees. With regard to the construction of the line itself, one cannot help remarking upon the various engineering achievements, and of these we might mention the Sejourné Viaduct and Gislard Bridge. The former spans the Têt just above the gorges of Caranca, whilst the latter (a rigid suspension bridge of new type) is flung across the river at a height of about 250ft., just above the stations of Fontpedrouse and Santo. The views from these fine structures are remarkable. 360ft.

Cinema Music.

A decided attraction at the Cupid Cinema, Leicester-square, where many fine dramatic and humorous pictures are screened, is Caicedo's Orchestra, whose selections it is always a real pleasure to listen to. Under the direction of Miss Caicedo, an accomplished pianist, this band has everywhere made a great success, admirably adapting the music to the film, and the appreciation of the audiences at every performance must be very gratifying to the conductress.

By an oversight in our last issue the name of Mr. Frank Lambert was given as the gentleman who sang some beautiful songs artistically at Miss Henriquette Maude's recital at the Waldorf on the afternoon of March 6. Mr. Lambert is the composer. The songs were sung by Mr. Frank Hill.

Mr. Ernie Lotinga and his charming wife, Miss Hettie King, writing from Ventimiglia, are glad to tell us that they are having a ripping time on the Riviera. If they did not create a record by breaking the bank at Monte Carlo, they came very near it. They both return on Easter Monday.

The Great Yarmouth Corporation invite offers, by way of annual rent, payable yearly in advance, for the hire for a term of five years from May 1 next, with the option of renewal for a further term of five years, of a site on the Central Beach, Great Yarmouth (containing 1,200 yards superficial or thereabouts) near the Coastguard Station, for pierrot, variety, or other similar open-air entertainments. No covered show will be allowed, but the space may be enclosed by a fence of approved height. Tenders will have to be sent to W. Edgar Stephens, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Great Yarmouth.

FILM GOSSIP.

"The Last Word" in Picture Houses.

Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck have promised to be present at the opening of the West End Kinema Theatre, Coventry-street, on Tuesday afternoon next, when the proceeds will be given to the Middlesex Hospital. The West End, which has been built at a cost of over £120,000, stands between Piccadilly-circus and Leicester-square, and its architect, Mr. Horace Gilbert, describes it as "the last word" in picture houses. It is luxuriously furnished, elegantly decorated, and scientifically ventilated, and has its own vacuum cleaning plant. The most exclusive films will be shown, and the theatre has its own staff of operators to secure pictures of events of the day. The West End will be open daily from one until midnight, and this will necessitate the employment of two full orchestras and general staffs.

Remarkable Films at the Scala.

In the interesting film called "Curious pets," now showing at the Scala, are seen the serval, the squirrel, and a mother ferret with young. "Rambles in Paris" and "The Italian Riviera" are beautiful representations of "foreign parts," and some really remarkable films show an otter catching fish, a tame walrus disporting, and a trout caught with the fly.

Croydon Picture House.

The Croydon Picture House reopened on Monday with a splendid programme. This house was originally the Electric Theatre, the pioneer of picture shows in Croydon, and, as formerly, the house will be under the management of Mr. W. H. Cousins, a guarantee that patrons will be well catered for. The hall has been redecorated throughout and luxuriously furnished. The performances are continuous, and there is a high-class orchestra.

People's Palace, Darlington.

To provide for the picture-loving public of the north end of the town, a splendid new hall has been erected by Messrs. Hoskins and Brown, architects, Darlington, and will be opened by the Mayor on Monday.

New Picture Palace at Maidenhead.

A new picture palace has been erected in Queen-street, Maidenhead, and was opened on Monday last. Originally intended as a private speculation, the proprietor, Mr. J. Wright, has been persuaded to form a limited liability company, with himself as managing-director, and Mr. F. Easton Pitcher as secretary. Built to the plans of Mr. Lee (of Messrs. Lee and Farr, Slough), by Messrs. J. K. Cooper and Sons, Ltd., of Maidenhead, the theatre is at once comfortable and commodious; the lighting is electric, but there is an alternative supply of gas. The floors are handsomely carpeted, and the walls are decorated with red panels, with grey moulding. The building is 26 ft. wide by 98 ft. long, is well ventilated and heated, and provides seating for 500 persons. The projecting machine is supplied by Pathé Frères, and the screen is 13 ft. by 10. The theatre will be open (except for an interval for tea) from 2.30 to 10.45, the programme consisting of about 6,500 ft. of film.

Leicester Picture Palaces.

At the Picture House the famous "Les Miserables," which was shown here for a fortnight some time ago, is now on view again once a day at 2.15. In addition there is a first-class programme, which includes "The Ranger and his horse," "Beyond the Polar circle," "How grandfather clocks are made," "Three Friends," and the "Boat race," besides the Gaumont and topical graphics. Business is very good here.

At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre the management see to it that their programmes continue to be of the best, hence the continued success and large audiences. There is among the list this week: "The Ranger and his horse," "The trail of cards," "Timid May," "The telephone girl and the lady," "A lazy recruit," "Rodolph, lady's hairdresser," and "High explosives as used in the U.S. Army."

At the Grand Electric Palace, which was the first of the new and up-to-date picture theatres to be opened in the town, and where a good show can always be relied upon, the leading films this week are "The vintage of fate," "The virtue of rags," "In a garden," "A Timely Rescue," "On Donovan's division," "The Wood Violet," etc.

"Harbour Island."

This is a dramatic film dealing with a story of modern American business and old Spanish ideals, and is to be released by the Selig Polyscope Co. on March 20. General Arieno, the last grandee of an old Spanish régime, refuses to sell a certain sea-girt tract in California to a big corporation for harbour purposes because it will dispossess his poor fisher-folk. The railway, discovering that his grant has a defect of title, take forcible possession, trusting luck to fight out its claims in court. Their harbour engineer, who has been called for this project, has fallen in love with a fair Californian at the closing of a mission school. She makes her home at the house of her uncle, General Arieno, and when she returns there and finds her lover directing the invasion against their ancient estate she gives him the hardest fight of his life; but love finds a way, and it ends well for all concerned. 1,008ft.

"But the Greatest of These is Charity."

To be released on March 26 by the Western Import Co., this intense dramatic film has for its plot the following story:—A banker, returning to his home, is surprised to hear the sound of laughter and chatter coming from his dining-room. Discovering that his daughter has brought some poor children into his home, he is so enraged that he orders the girl to turn her guests away immediately. Vainly she pleads, later declaring that if they go she will go also. The girl takes the children to their tenement home, and, having no money with her, gives the poorest a jewelled bracelet. Then, weary of the world, she seeks refuge in a convent. The bracelet is found on the charred remains of a woman, who has been burned to death in the slums, and the banker, hearing of this, thinks his daughter dead. He vows to do good where he has done harm, and takes as a protégée a little girl who bears a likeness to his daughter. At the child's invitation he visits a parish school she had attended before being adopted by the banker, and here, to his surprise and joy, he meets the daughter whom he thought was dead. Mutual explanations and forgiveness follow. 1,000ft.

"An Asbestos Quarry in America."

This interesting and instructive film, to be released by Pathé Frères on Saturday, March 22, shows how asbestos is treated to transform it from the raw state to the useful and valuable commercial article. It is found in many parts of the world, but chiefly in Quebec, where we see the quarrying and blasting operations—the boring, the setting of the charge, the firing of the fuse, and lastly, the succession of "blow-ups," as the charges explode. A "close-up" view of a mass of raw asbestos is shown. The shattered rock has now to be conveyed to the mill, where it is crushed and washed, the refuse being shot into trucks and conveyed to an enormous embankment, where it is hurled over. This scene, taken from a great height, is of especial beauty and interest. Lastly, we are shown a handful of pure asbestos, ready for use as packing or for further manufacturing. 359ft.

"Fancy Billiards."

In view of the important billiard match between Reece and Inman at the Holborn Hall on Monday next, this release should be of especial interest. The efficiency of Tom Reece as an all-round exponent of the art of billiard-playing is well known, and in the demonstration which Kineto have published examples of the most astonishing skill and delicacy of precision are reproduced. Not only are the most difficult of orthodox strokes easily manipulated, but many original and apparently impossible tricks are executed with astonishing facility. 375ft.

"Lady Clare."

Founded upon the famous poem by Lord Tennyson, this exquisitely artistic film, which is to be released on March 26 by the Edison Co., carries us back to the good old days of Merrie England. Lord Ronald comes to Lady Clare, bringing her the gift of a doe. They are betrothed, and soon to be married. Their meeting is watched by William and his wife, old Alice, the nurse, who later comes to Lady Clare to congratulate her. She then confesses that the old earl's daughter died in her arms, and that she substituted her own child, who grew up as Lady Clare. Lady Clare decides to go to Lord Ronald and tell him all. She dons the simple garb of a humble girl, and reaching his estate, tells him her story. Lord Ronald laughs at the tale, and in the words of the poem tells her that if she is not the Lady Clare, and he is the rightful owner, they two will wed, and she shall still retain her place in the world.

"Little Willie and the Bellows."

To be released on March 27 by Hepworth, Ltd., this amusing film deals with the funny adventures of, and the trouble caused by, Little Willie, who, whilst playing, manages to get hold of a pair of bellows. He makes himself a general nuisance, starting by trying to help the housemaid light a fire, the result being to cover her with soot. He next adjourns to the kitchen, where he finds the cook asleep. With the aid of the bellows he succeeds in sprinkling her all over with flour. Escaping from the enraged cook, he gets into the conservatory, and creates dire havoc amongst the gardener's plants. His bellows then seem to become possessed of a magic power, for he blows away the moustache of a young gentleman who is waiting for his lady-love at the corner of the lane, and when he is chased by the crowd of people whom he has tormented, he manages to squeeze enough air out of the bellows to blow his pursuers back again. Eventually, however, he falls asleep on the seat in the garden, and they manage to creep upon him unawares, when he promptly receives the punishment that he so richly deserves. 475ft.

CINEMA SHOWS AT LIVERPOOL.

DRASTIC REGULATIONS.

At Liverpool on Tuesday the licensing justices met to consider proposed new rules for premises licensed for cinematograph exhibitions.

After deliberating in private the Bench announced that the following regulations would be enforced in future:—

That the licensed premises should not be opened for the purpose of exhibition before two o'clock in the afternoon instead of 11 a.m., as formerly.

That no film shall be shown that is objectionable or indecent, or likely to produce riot, tumult, or breach of the peace, and no offensive representations of living persons shall be permitted in the licensed premises. Provided also that no film shall be exhibited if notice that the justices object to such film has been given to the licensee.

If on a receipt of a complaint from any source the justices request the licensee to exhibit to them the film referred to, he shall do so at such time and to such persons as the justices may direct. In the event of there being three or more well-founded complaints against the hall during the period for which the licence is granted, the justices shall have power to order the licence to be cancelled, or to be suspended for such period as they may think fit.

The licensee shall by noon on Monday in each week send to the superintendent of police for the division in which the licensed premises are situated, a printed programme of the performance, stating the names of the films intended to be exhibited in the licensed premises during that week, or if no such programme is used in the licensed premises, a list of the films intended to be so exhibited shall be sent; and if it is necessary to substitute any film for those shown on the programme or list, immediate notice shall be sent as aforesaid.

Children under fourteen years of age shall not be allowed to enter into or be in the licensed premises after the hour of 6.30 p.m. unaccompanied by their parents or guardians.

If an afternoon performance is held in the licensed premises to which the minimum price of admission for children is 2d. or less, there shall be shown at such performance only such films as are specially suitable for exhibition to children.

In the event of any department of a public elementary school situated within a radius of a quarter of a mile of the licensed premises being closed by reason of the prevalence of any infectious disease, the justices may, for such period as they think fit, direct the licensee to exclude from the licensed premises all children under the age of fourteen years, and after such direction has been notified to the licensee no child under fourteen shall be permitted to enter into or remain on the licensed premises at any time during the period named.

No tickets shall be issued either for free or reduced admission to the licensed premises, except those given bona-fide to persons who exhibit bills of the entertainment about their shops or premises, and in no such cases no free or reduced admission for more than two persons shall be given in respect of the exhibition of any one bill.

When on duty all male attendants in the licensed premises shall be provided with and wear uniform, and all female attendants shall be provided with and wear a distinctive dress.

At all times when the licensed premises are open to the public there shall be sufficient light in the hall of the premises to enable any person present, and any person visiting the premises, to see clearly to all parts of the hall from any part thereof.

Other new rules relate to seating and standing accommodation, fire-prevention precautions, arrangements for entrance and exit, etc.

There are thirty-eight rules in all, but a number of these have already been in existence for some years.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. Fred. T. Boucher, the general-manager and secretary to the Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd., who has been confined to his room for six or seven weeks, is on the way to improvement, and expects to resume his duties before Easter.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

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THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

As already announced in "The Era," the executive officials of the Showmen's Guild are dealing with the National Health Insurance Act and its application to travelling showpeople. We feel sure that showmen generally will recognise the stupendous nature of the Government scheme for providing that every workman and every workwoman shall, by a method of compulsory thrift, be insured against breakdown in health and that dire poverty which inability to work inevitably brings.

When the Government were planning their great Insurance Act they had a choice between two successful systems of insurance that had been tried and had been effective for all the purposes intended to be covered by health insurance.

The first great model was the German National Insurance. This involved (if adopted) a vast army of State-paid officials, inspectors, and medical officers. The other, known as "The Friendly Society Model," was entirely of British growth, and the outcome of the genius for thrift which characterises the better educated sections of the British democracy. The Government wisely decided for the British model, and, indeed, any other decision would have inflicted an enormous loss and injustice upon the excellent friendly and trade societies which sets apart British industrial life over all other countries.

The Real Facts of the Case.

A great deal of confusion exists in the public mind as to what the Insurance Act is meant to do. The truth of the matter is that the first great principle of the Act is to compel the thoughtless and thriftless working classes to do what already the thoughtful and the thrifty have done. That is, by a small weekly contribution, to insure against the time of sickness, and to provide the necessary monetary help which the breakdown of the bread-winner necessitates. The Insurance Act does more than this, but let us keep the essential fact clear and distinct before us—its primary object is to compel the workers to provide for the day of inevitable necessity.

To form a just opinion of the Act we must bear in mind that it is in all its essential principles compulsory friendly society membership for all workers. The Act says to the worker, "You must be insured, and to gain full benefits you ought to join an Approved Society." There is an alternative, and that, again, is a system of compulsory thrift whereby you pay your money into the post office and in time of necessity you draw it out and use it, but the benefits are much less than that given through the friendly societies.

How Does this Affect Showpeople?

Again let us be clear about our facts. The insured worker on the fairground has all the same benefits, without any reduction or distinction, as any other class of workers in the country.

If the worker is already in a friendly society all his benefits continue, with added benefits that the Act gives. There is a benefit under the Act which lies entirely at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners appointed to administer it. It is an extremely important part of the Act, but it is one that can only become operative as time and necessity shows its need.

The Health Commissioners have powers under the Act to make provision for special emergencies and to grant facilities for exceptional cases. It is under this part of the Act that the Showmen's Guild is moving with a view to obtaining such concessions and facilities as will meet the practical needs of showlife. These concessions and practical suggestions have been very carefully formulated by the executive committee of the Guild.

In a recent letter addressed to the Right Honourable David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, by the veteran champion and advocate of the showman's cause, Mr. Joe Caddick, he uses the following cogent argument:—"I, in common with my fellow-showmen and van-dwellers, who lead a nomadic and Bohemian life, are only too pleased to peacefully fall into line with our fellow-subjects more favourably situated in a domestic sense and obey whatever laws were passed for the presumed welfare of the country. Now we are paying contributions, both the employers and the employees, with (at present) no likelihood of any benefits whatever, especially medical benefits, owing to our constant change of district, often daily. Speaking on behalf of my fellows, I would, with all respect, like an authoritative statement from you, as the acknowledged chief author of the Act, as to our position. It must be manifest, sir, to everyone with a sense of justice and fair play that we are labouring under great disadvantages. I feel sure, after the earnestness and sincerity displayed by the authors of the Act, that some means will be found to remove our anxiety and place us on a level with our fellow-subjects.

"I may say *en passant* that our outdoor life and active habits render the possibilities of illness more remote than less favoured classes in the community. All the same, we do have occasional necessity to see a medical man, and when our people know that they are paying for medical and other benefits, they ought to have the certainty of getting what they pay for should occasion arise."

The Guild Petition.

Following the admirable lead given by Mr. Caddick the Guild Executive Council has forwarded to the Commissioners of the National Health Insurance Act a petition.

As this sets out in detail the principal points of the showman's case for special treatment we have much pleasure in giving the full text of the document:—

"March 11, 1913.

"Travelling Showmen and Medical Benefits.

"Dear Sir,—On behalf of the travelling showmen of the country we desire to draw the attention of the Insurance Commissioners to the need of special facilities being given as regards medical benefits to showpeople insured under the Act.

"For nine months out of every year the greater number of showpeople are away from their permanent homes travelling from fair to fair, or catering the popular amusements of the people from town to town.

"Whilst the medical benefits for the short period they are at home is secured to them, there yet remains the much more important question of the possible provision of medical benefits for the unfortunate workers who may be stricken down or meet with accidents during their wandering life.

"The Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild, having fully considered the question, desire that a small deputation from their society should be received by the Commissioners, in order that practical suggestions for dealing with the better administration of medical benefits to their class should be laid before the Commissioners.

"That the Commissioners may realise the importance of affording additional facilities we submit the following interesting facts:—

"Travelling the United Kingdom frequenting the fairs there are some 20,000 travelling homes, each the centre of an active family life.

"The employees engaged in the management and conveyance from town to town of the large shows, roundabouts, and other amusements mean a considerable number of travelling workmen and women. We cannot put the numbers at less than 16,000 to 20,000.

"The great majority of these are insurable persons, and very frequently the grown-up sons and daughters of the caravan are paid weekly wages and come under the Act.

"The deputation would wait upon the Commissioners at any time fixed, and it would consist of ourselves and two other showmen.—Awaiting a favourable reply, we are, sir, your obedient servants,

"PATRICK COLLINS, President.

"THOMAS HORNE, Secretary and Chaplain.

"To the Secretary, The National Insurance Commissioners."

Patricroft Spring Fair.

One of the very populous suburbs of Manchester is known as the Eccles District. It is made up of three or four thickly populated residential townships. For the purposes of the annual fairs, one in the spring-time (quite a modern fixture) and the other known as "Eccles Wakes" (a very old fair), Patricroft is taken as the best centre for the district.

Mr. John Collins, having taken over the business interests of the late John Whiting (on whose circuit was the Eccles District), now controls these fairs. A more than usually interesting aggregation of show novelties kept the fair a week ago.

The great attraction was John Collins and Son's magnificent scenic railway, the very last and best production of the famous show and roundabout builders, Messrs. Orton, Son, and Spooner, of Burton-on-Trent.

It is said to be quite equal to the splendid scenic railway we described in our report of King's Lynn Fair.

The second attraction was Sedgwick's famous menagerie. These two shows alone were sufficient to draw big crowds to the fair.

The splendid order and arrangement of the side-shows, roundabouts, shooting ranges, and throwing games was highly creditable to both Mr. Collins and his ground manager. Amongst the other entertainers were Norman Hurst, with the careering chanticleers and treble-saddled ostriches. The other entertainers were the well-known Manchester providers of minor amusements.

Notes from Hampshire.

Our fairground correspondent in this district writes: "Harry King's portable theatre has just finished a fairly successful season. Located on the Volunteer Arms Meadow, Petersfield, besides the legitimate drama, a variety programme has formed part of the entertainment, the variety artistes being Miss Marie Edwards, Miss Nellie Boyd, Mr. Sid Benton, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, and Mr. Harry King.

At the Stanhope-road Fairground, Portsmouth, the following amusements have been on exhibition:—John Gale's switchback roundabout, Park swings, shooter, and minor amusements, and John Grigg's football penalty frames, dart boards, ring boards, and throwing games.

Guild Subscriptions, 1913.

Per Mr. P. Collins, Mr. Miles Jervis, £1; per Mr. H. Shuttleworth, Mr. Harry Holland, 5s.

Show Notes from Wales.

Mrs. John Studt paid a visit to Llantrissant with her new electric coliseum, and gave some very interesting programmes. The new motor-car set and other amusements controlled by Mrs. Studt were also on the same ground. Messrs. R. Dooner and Son have had a most successful season at Maesteg. Mr. Dooner fully understands his public, and provides the very best variety talent and up-to-date pictures.

Messrs. Crecraft Brothers are running their show at Glyn Math, with a great success. Mr. Claypole announces the opening of his new picture palace at Pembroke Dock. This enterprising showman controls the picture palace at Milford Haven, and we understand that Messrs. Thomas Brother, Tenby, are doing excellent business with their new picture palace. Bostock's Wombwell Menagerie is now on the Welsh circuit, and drawing the usual crowds.

New Patents.

This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., registered patent agents, 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, &c., can be obtained gratuitously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

5,296.—Alfred Dudley and Herbert Frostick Dudley. Advertising display device. March 3.

5,413.—Harry Bax. Method of and means for illuminating premises to permit of inspection thereof from outside. March 4.

5,455.—Augustus Bernard Dashwood Lang and John Anthony Powell. Apparatus for displaying announcements, advertisements, and the like. March 4.

5,538.—Langdon McCormick. Method of and means for producing an illusion. March 5.

5,626.—British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., and Alfred George Rogers. Electrical annunciators. March 6.

5,652.—Charles Henry. Apparatus for public display by day and night of advertisements. March 6.

5,702.—Frank Gibbons. Ticket-issuing and recording machine for theatre and similar purposes. March 7.

SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

4,470.—Harris. Coin-freed machines.

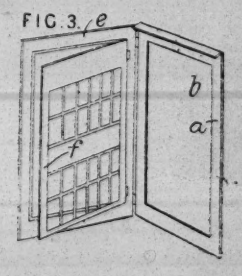
5,485.—Snow and Denby. Amusement device.

5,617.—Middlemiss. Check-issuing machines.

28,591.—Meadows. Method and apparatus for detecting false coinage.

LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACT.

"Displaying Notices." A frame for exhibiting announcements and advertisements comprises a wooden frame *a*, surrounding a panel *b*, a second



frame *e*, having a glass panel, hinged thereto, and an intermediate compartmented frame *f* hinged to the second frame and serving to contain a number of notices. S. Zeretelli.

Printed copies of the published specifications can be obtained from Messrs. Rayner and Co. at the price of 1s.

Miss Helena Frederick, the distinguished American soprano, is to make her London variety début at the Coliseum on Monday. Miss Frederick has done much good work in grand opera, both in America and Germany, and during the past two seasons has been appearing in condensed versions of Offenbach's "Tales of Hoffman" and Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana." Her repertoire is mostly of a classical nature, but during her engagement at the Coliseum she is to sing, among other items, Logan's "Erlinda; or, the Lay of the Moon," a composition compassing two octaves, and a "classical rag-time" song, which has been written specially for her, and which she will sing for the first time in public on (illegible)

SCENIC ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Established over 80 years.

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Fireproof Scenery and Transparent Canvas, Stiffened Scenery, Netting, Fireproofed Gauze and Stage Cloths. Roods Trick Lines and Blocks, Scrims and Hessians, Blinds and Covers, Mats and Matting, Flags affs, Flags and Decorations of all descriptions. Canvas Waterproof Tanks and Scenery Cloth for aquatic effects a speciality.

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Best workmanship in both making and painting.
Nothing too large.
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Established 1842. 'Phone, 2985 Hop. 4, LOWER KENNINGTON-LANE, LONDON, S.E.
Painting-room, 138B, NEWINGTON - BUTTS.
Esperanto.

COLOUR MERCHANTS.

LEETE'S Scenic Colours are the Best.
Write for Catalogue. Tel. No., 2093 Hop.
Colour Works, 129, LONDON-RD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, first-class work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks and James A. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Contracts for Carlyle Scenic Studio. High-class Effective Scenery at lowest prices.
W. B. Robinson,
4, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, London, abstainer, quick, energetic, Permanent Engagement, all year round; fine colourist; mod. terms; good refs.; London or provinces. Address, Artist, Box 4,406, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Assistant Scenic Artist; touch up, re-paint, assist carpenter; terms, mod.; refs.. etc. W. H. K., 70, Friendly-street, Lewisham High-road.

WANTED, Scenic Artists to Know Leetes' Colours, &c., are the best. Write for catalogue. Works, 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, to Let, Three Large Paint Frames.
Apply,
Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' CARDS.
13 insertions 10s.

WM. B. BOSTOCK.
Manchester Scenic Studio Co. Estd. 1894.
RUMFORD-ST. (All Saints), MANCHESTER.
'Phone, No. 3044 Central. Contracts solicited.

W. R. BUIST.
At liberty. Address,
40, BERNERS-ST., HIGHFIELDS, LEICESTER.

MR. JULES CAMUS.
Contracts, Mr. Lew Lake's Studios,
24, KINGSLAKE-ST., OLD KENT-RD., S.E.

T. C. DALY, Scenic Artist, "Ogden"
Scenic Studios, OGDEN-ST., ARDWICK, MANCHESTER. Coms., 31, Hinckley-street, Bradford, Manchester.

MR. R. C. DURANT.
At liberty. Offers invited. 77, PARK HALL-ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, N.

MR. GEO. R. HEMSLEY,
7A and 9A, GRAY-ST., WATERLOO-RD., S.E.
4197 Hop., 4920 Gerrard Telegraphic address, "Scenically."

MR. W. T. HEMSLEY.
Artist. Scenic Studio, FELIX-ST., WEST MINSTER BRIDGE-RD., S.E. 'Phone, 1853 Hop

MR. LEVESON LINTON.
Sharp's Painting Rooms,
SURREY THEATRE.

MR. DAVIES MASSEY.
4, PRINCESS MAY-RD., STOKE NEWINGTON, N. At lib. for Theatrical or Exhibition work.

GUSTAV ROBERT'S
SCENIC AND DECORATIVE ATELIERS
WESTON-SUPER-MARE
(Private address—29, Kensington-road.)
A new distinctive note in Stage Scenery.
Originality in Design and Colour; first-class work only at **moderate prices.**
Speciality—**Artistic Act Drop Scenes and Decorative Panels and Tapestries**
(Figural and Landscape)
ready for fixing on walls, ceilings, &c.
REPAINTING OLD SCENERY.
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CONTRACTS WANTED.

ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART.

A task of no little difficulty confronted the distinguished judges at the matinée given by the Academy of Dramatic Art, at the Playhouse, on Thursday, for the efforts of the students revealed a high state of efficiency. The judges were Lady Bancroft, Mr. Cyril Maude, and Mr. Forbes Robertson, who all occupied private boxes, and among the audience were to be seen Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir George and Lady Alexander, Mr. E. S. Willard, and Mr. J. D. Beveridge. The programme was well stocked with dramatic excerpts, "Romeo and Juliet" being found side by side with "Diana of Dobson's," and "Milestones" being in close proximity to "A Woman of No Importance." It was in the last-mentioned piece, rehearsed by Mr. J. Fisher White, that the most promising individual work was, to our mind, accomplished, Miss May Haysack giving an artistic performance of the sorely tried Mrs. Arbuthnot in Act II. of Oscar Wilde's brilliant play. Miss Haysack has undoubted emotional gifts and nervous force, and she played the part most impressively. Mr. Cedric W. Hardwicke as Lord Illingworth spoke his lines with commendable distinctness and gave them their proper value, and though Miss Irene Barnett hardly caught the aristocratic air of the venerable Lady Stutfield, she created great amusement. Miss Inez E. Murray is highly to be commended upon her delivery of the sentiments regarding society held by the outspoken American, Hester Worsley, and the Archdeacon Daubeny of Mr. Alexander D. Glascodine was a characteristic, if rather ponderous, assumption.

A finished performance of the first act of "Milestones" was secured by Miss Helen Haye. Amid a series of clever essays, the Samuel Sibley of Mr. George W. Dewhurst appeared to us to stand out conspicuous. Mr. Dewhurst has a serviceable voice, and is in every way well equipped for a career on the stage. Miss Joan Bennett made a sweetly pretty Rose Sibley, and spoke and acted with considerable tenderness. Mr. Leonard E. Notcutt, the 1912 Gold Medallist, seemed to take himself too seriously even for that inflexible young man, John Rhead, and his voice seemed incapable of the nicer shades of emotion; but he bore himself well throughout an arduous part. Mr. Kenneth Kent cleverly assumed the foppishness of "Ned" Pym, and Miss Jean Gregor as Gertrude Rhead contributed to the excellence of the representation.

Another outstanding effort was the Diana Massingberd of Miss Olive W. Davies in the first act of "Diana of Dobson's," rehearsed by Miss Gertrude Burnett. Miss Davies played the part with remarkable confidence and ability, making every point with ease and distinctness. A very pleasing performance was the Kitty Brant of Miss Fay Metcalfe, who has a fine speaking voice; and the various characteristics of Miss Smithers, Miss Jay, and Miss Morton were creditably indicated by Miss Joan Head, Miss Iris Foss, and Miss Beryl Paul respectively.

Shakespeare's love tragedy was chiefly notable for the duels and combats, arranged by M. Felix Bertrand, the fatal encounter between Mercutio and Tybalt being conducted with short sword and rapier. The excerpts given were Scenes I. and V. of Act. III., rehearsed by Miss Elsie Chester. Miss Gladys Young was the Juliet, and acted with rare intelligence and impassioned delivery, her depiction of the hopelessness of the young girl's position in the stormy scene with her father being admirably indicated. Mr. Kenneth Kent was a gallant and well-spoken Romeo, and Mr. Alexander Sarner a quite excellent Mercutio. Mr. Alexander D. Glascodine rather overdid the violence of Capulet's outburst, but was nevertheless deeply impressive. Miss Winifred Rose was a gracious and well-nigh perfect Lady Capulet, and Miss Muriel N. Dale assumed the querulous accents of the Nurse with commendable fidelity.

In a scene from Alfred De Musset's "On ne badine pas avec l'amour," rehearsed by Mlle. Alice Clerc, and given in the original tongue, Miss Mary F. Rowan was agreeably prominent with a clever rendering of the youth, Perdican. Coster impersonations were vivaciously given by Miss Winifred Rose and Miss Stella Du Port, who acted vivaciously as a couple of flash flower girls in the duologue, "'Enery Brown," rehearsed by Mr. Norman Page.

Skill in the art of miming was indicated in a wordless play, which showed how an artist's model who had infatuated him was strangled to death by the wife's sister. The play was rehearsed by Mrs. Edward O'Neill, and proved very thrilling as acted by Miss Silvia Fausset-Baker, who has a tall, willowy figure, and proved very fascinating as the model, by Mr. Deering Wells as the artist, by Miss Norah G. Sturdee as the wife, and by Miss Muriel Mackay as the sister, whose shuddering horror at the task that confronts her was realistically suggested.

Variety was lent to the proceedings by a mazurka exquisitely danced by a dozen young ladies, whose boy and girl costumes afforded quite a delightful scheme of colour; and a pretty pas de deux was executed by Miss Rachel E. Ferguson and Miss Fay Metcalfe, who figured as Harlequin and Columbine. Clever dancing was also done by Miss Arlette Revenna, Miss Pauline Gilmer, and Miss Winifred Hicks, in a pas de trois, with an effective finale in which all the performers pirouetted gracefully off the stage.

A long programme lasting some three hours and a quarter, with practically no waits, was provided, but it proved interesting and amusing throughout. The Academy's thanks were accorded on the programme to Mr. Cyril Maude for his kindness in lending his theatre, scenery, and other accessories; to Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and Mr. Charles Frohman for lending properties; to Mr. Arthur Bourchier for lending the tableau curtains; to Mr. Alfred Turner, Mr. John Harwood, and members of the staff of the Playhouse for their able co-operation; and to Mr. George Mackern for accompanying the song.

The winner of the Bancroft gold medal was Miss Olive Davies, Blackheath, for her Diana in "Diana of Dobson's." Mr. Forbes Robertson's silver medal was won by Miss Gladys Young, the Juliet; and Mr. Cyril Maude's medal by Miss M. Rowan, Perdican, in the French play. Twenty certificates of honour were also awarded.

Lecturing on "Garrick and His Stage" at the Bradford Playgoers' Society on Saturday night Mr. Basil Watt, of the Leeds College of Drama, drew a graphic picture of the state of the English stage when Garrick first trod its boards. The theatre, he said, was hemmed in by tradtions and conventional observances, and the time was ripe for a change. The actors were still regarded in the eyes of the law as vagrants and malefactors; but nothing could stop the younger generation, who were clamouring for recognition. It was in 1741, when he was twenty-five, that Garrick took the difficult step of making his first appearance as professional actor at Goodman's Fields Theatre. Garrick revolutionised the drama, and the older actors' methods were pronounced old-fashioned. The lecturer spoke of the mighty achievements of the great actor, and said that he doubted whether there had ever existed an actor who achieved so much in so little time as Garrick did during his first year. He appeared in no fewer than twenty leading parts in six months, parts differing from the highest tragedy to the lowest farce. He was equally at home in comedy or tragedy.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

LYCEUM CLUB PRIZE PLAYS.

On Wednesday afternoon, March 12, at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, four new one-act plays of the Lyceum Club competition were produced. The first was by "T.V.," and entitled

"THE DANCER."

La Reine .....Miss Martha Vigo
Joseph .....Mr. Albert Wainwright
Colonel Gunnsled ....Mr. Vincent W. Lawson
Prince Dorian .....Mr. Owen Ediss

The story of this slight and not very convincing little piece deals with the love of Prince Dorian for a famous French dancer. Incurring the Royal displeasure for his infatuation of La Reine the Prince is imprisoned, and the dancer, with her faithful old musician Joseph, closely watched and guarded, is ordered banishment. But when the officer who has come to escort her across the frontier arrives on the scene La Reine, using all her arts to captivate the gallant colonel, has no difficulty in getting him to drink some wine which had been previously drugged. And her Prince, who has managed to escape from prison, and has been hiding in an adjoining room, donning the colonel's cloak, etc., the happy young lovers speedily make their departure. Miss Martha Vigo was a dainty and vivacious dancer; Mr. Owen Ediss played with earnestness as the Prince; and Mr. W. Lawson as the colonel and Mr. Albert Wainwright as the devoted old musician did excellently.

The next piece on the programme—the first prize modern play judged by Mr. Granville Barker—was by Winifred M. Ardagh, entitled

"AS THE LAW STANDS"

Esther Graham ..Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter
John Graham .....Mr. C. Marshal
Archibald Campbell .....Mr. George T. Grieg

This was to our thinking the gem of the afternoon: a strong, concise, cleverly-written little Scottish piece that will undoubtedly be seen again. Esther Graham and her guid man John are on the verge of starvation. The man cannot get work; his wife is about to become a mother, and he decides to "desert" her in order that she may get poor law relief. It is, of course, "collusion," for the poor little wife dearly loves John, and is very loth that he shall leave her. But he is determined. She packs up all the food there is and does all that is possible for his comfort when he is away. Recalling the past, husband and wife both become jealous, and angry words ensue. And eventually the husband does go—apparently for good. There will be no "collusion." Then the poor law officer comes in—an old sweetheart of the wife's named Archie. Recognising her he offers to take her away, and she is on the point of consenting when John returns—for the pipe he has left behind. He has witnessed the scene between Esther and Archie; but the wife still loves her husband and declares her determination of sticking to him, much to Archie's scorn. Nevertheless, Archie, ere taking his departure, gives John a job on a farm and money for his fare. "Say God bless him," says Esther when Archie has departed. "God bless him—damn him," replies the jealous husband as the curtain falls. The little piece was perfectly played. Miss Leah Bateman Hunter graphically depicted the suffering and anguish of the poor wife, and Mr. C. Marshall and Mr. George T Greig did excellently in the two male parts.

The third piece was by Priscilla Craven and Sybil Ruskin, the first prize costume play judged by Martin Harvey, and entitled

"THE PAINTED NUN."

Annette de Regniere ....Miss Alice Greeven
Pere Xavier .....Mr. Albert Wainwright
Denise de Briancourt ..Miss Beatrice Wilson
Armande Vicomte de Lausac
Mr. Charles Vane
Thibaut .....Mr. Rollo Balmain
Jacques .....Mr. Harry Collier

This is a dramatic little Revolution play, which would be much improved by liberal pruning. Annette de Regniere, an actress who is the mistress of Armande Vicomte de Lausac, is in danger of the guillotine. She manages to gain entrance to the house of a friend, but once inside learns from a nun that he is dead. She pleads with the nun to save her, and the sister recognises in the terrified actress a former acquaintance who had robbed her of the man she loved. A well-written and impressive scene follows between the two women, and eventually to save Annette she proposes that they shall exchange costumes, the curtain falling as the "painted nun," who has had to rouge her cheeks to resemble the actress, is led away to her death. Miss Beatrice Wilson acted with real feeling and intensity as the nun, and her impersonation throughout was a decidedly good one. Miss Alice Greeven as Annette de Regniere—a part she undertook at very short notice—eloquently depicted the fear of the distraught actress; and Mr. Charles Vane and Mr. Rollo Balmain did excellently as Armande de Lausac and Thibaut, a revolutionary.

The concluding piece was by Mrs. Stewart Erskine, entitled

"JOHN ANDERSON'S CHANCE."

Maisie Anderson ....Miss Marjorie Hamilton
John Anderson .....Mr. Jackson Wilcox
Olga Deane .....Miss Inez Bensusan

This is a capitally written and interesting little piece. John Anderson, a newspaper reporter, coming home late at night after a hard day's work trying to get exclusive "copy" concerning a murder has an unexpected visitor—a lady. She had called earlier in the day and left her stole behind, and it is for this she has now returned. As she is about to depart John notes that she is in a fainting condition, and soon learns that she is Olga Deane, the secretary of the murdered man in whom he is so interested. Scenting some valuable copy, he questions her, and in the course of the "interview" the woman makes it obvious that she had killed her employer. The man had deserved his fate, but John thinks it his duty to inform the police, and putting on his coat is about to depart. But he relents; he cannot do it. But what of the "interview?" He will destroy it. And as he tears up his notes the distraught girl goes from the house. Mr. Jackson Wilcox, whose work is always interesting, played the keen but kindly reporter in his usual finished and easy style. Miss Inez Bensusan cleverly realised the anguish and fear of the guilty secretary; and Miss Marjorie Hamilton acted naturally as the reporter's wife.

In the intervals the Chelsea Ladies Quartette contributed many delightful old trios and quartettes, much appreciated items in the long afternoon's programme.

Mr. Montagu Love, who has been playing Dagfinn and understudying Mr. Irving in "The Pretenders" at the Haymarket, has been re-engaged by Mr. Matheson Lang to play Don Guzman in "Westward Ho!" (the part he originally appeared in in South Africa), for a short suburban tour, opening at the Marlboro', Holloway, on Easter Monday. The "Westward Ho!" posters were drawn by Mr. Love.

Mr. Edmund Gerson, the veteran theatrical manager, who had been ill at his home, 60 W. 104 St., N.Y., has been removed to the J. Hood Wright Hospital in a weak condition, suffering from kidney trouble. Mr. Gerson was on the road managing the May Robson Co. in the "Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary," and on Dec. 28 came home sick, and has been in bed ever since. He is 64, and has been in the theatrical business for 40 years. In 1910 he was manager for Miss May Robson, when she appeared at Terry's Theatre. He married Miss Kathy Kiralfy, a sister of the Kiralfy Bros.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LES FICELLES."

Play, by G. Giacosa, adapted by Paul Géraldy and Mlle. Darsenne, Produced at the Grand Guignol, on March 11.

Le. Docteur .....M. Defresne
Arlequin .....M. Viguier
Pantalon .....M. Lagrange
Florinde .....M. Saint-Omer
Le soldat .....M. Nicole
Colombine .....Mlle. Galet
Rosalinde .....Mme. Vatta

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, March 13.—As usual the management of the Grand Guignol has given us a few "thrills," although it must be owned that the works produced were of milder description, and did not frighten any of the spectators out of their stalls, which formerly was frequently the case. "Les Ficelles" is a very clever skit by the famous Italian dramatist, Giacosa. We are behind the scenes of a marionette show, and witness an indignation meeting held by the puppets, who complain that they are held in scant esteem by the public, who seem to fancy that because these puppets have strings attached to their heads and arms they can neither think nor act for themselves. They then try to show their independent spirit, but, alas, it is a hopeless failure. They all know their rôles, but nothing more, and they utter the same platitudes they have been repeating ever since they were created. Harlequin, Pantaloon, Rosalinde, Columbine, are intensely grotesque, and they might have continued their absurd monologues ad infinitum if a hand had not suddenly appeared from above, a hand that grasps the strings and compels the "personages" to attend at once to their "business." The satirical sketch met with a big and well-deserved success.

"S.O.S."

Drama, in Two Acts, by Charles Muller and Maurice Level, Produced at the Grand Guignol, on March 11.

James Barnay .....M. Guérard
Teddy Simpson .....M. Grehan
Dickson .....M. Defresne
Bumble .....M. Saint-Omer
Le Commandant .....M. Desmoulins
Un officier .....M. Viguier
Dolly Barnay .....Mlle. Marcelle Barry

The authors, haunted by the terrible fate of the Titanic, have given us a series of scenes on board a sinking steamer. The commander has offered a fête to the passengers, and there is a fashionable gathering of décolleté ladies and gentlemen in evening dress, who dance, flirt, and play bridge to their hearts' content. Suddenly they feel a shock, the engines stop, the lights go out, and the panic-stricken passengers rush to the boats. It is a fearful mêlée, and the officers do their best to reason with their frightened flock. When, however, it becomes evident that the vessel is rapidly sinking we witness some heartrending scenes. Yet in this awful moment human nature shows itself in a weird light. A Mr. Barnay discovers that Dolly, his wife, has a lover on board, and his first thought is to be avenged on her. He therefore prevents her from entering a boat with a crowd of other women, and leaves her to the care of her lover, a cowardly creature, who only looks after his own safety and rushes on deck, unheedful of the poor woman's cries for help. The work was beautifully staged and capitally acted.

M. Pierre Véber's "Le Bonheur" is a witty psychological study. M. and Mme. Mazeraud are a dissatisfied couple They have enough to live upon, but they cannot indulge in any luxuries, and their sole subject of conversation is the "luck" of one of their cousins who has made a considerable fortune in the colonies. They are mortally jealous of that cousin, and the thought of that man's wealth embitters their life. Suddenly the cousin stands before them. He has returned from the colonies, ruined in pocket and in health; and the envious couple at once become reconciled to their fate, which is so much better than that of their penniless relative.

A sombre play is "Le Croissant noir," by M. Jean Lallier. A Turkish town is besieged by the Bulgarians, and a Turkish spy is caught and brought before the officer in command. At first the spy refuses to speak, but he suddenly unbosoms himself and informs his captors that he has had himself inoculated with the cholera virus so as to spread the dread disease among the enemies of his country. The spy is at once shot, but the officers to whom the man made this ghastly confession likewise blow out the brains of the Bulgarian sentinel, who, having assisted at this conversation, might tell the other soldiers and create a panic in the camp.

The Théâtre des Arts has brought out several interesting works, foremost among which "Les aveux indiscrets," by Monsigny, written in 1759. It is an amusing trifle. Colin and Toinette have been married that day. Unfortunately Colin is a conceited youth, and he tells Toinette that he has already loved other women and received favours from them. Toinette looks at him in surprise, and gives him to understand that she too has had her little love adventure with a good-looking young officer. Bride and bridegroom then have a violent quarrel, whereupon Toinette's parents come upon the scene and try to arrange matters. The mother-in-law takes Colin in hand, and tells him that she, too, has been a bit "larky" before she married. Unfortunately her husband overhears this statement, and trouble now breaks out between the parents-in-law. But the "bailli"—a kind of mayor—arrives at that critical moment and acts as peacemaker between the elderly and the young couple.

Sir Herbert Beerbohm-Tree has paid a flying visit to Paris to assist at a performance of "L'Homme qui assassina", which is having a phenomenal run at the Antoine Theatre. Sir Herbert at once secured the play, and intends to produce it at His Majesty's Theatre with a brilliant cast. He will impersonate Colonel de Sevigne, the rôle played in Paris by M. Gémier.

"La maladresse" is the title of a one-act play by M. Georges Docquois, brought out at the little Théâtre Impérial, which has the speciality of risky productions. The moral of that work is queer. A cocotte is madly in love with a youth—her "amant de cœur." But the youth commits the mistake—"la maladresse"—of presenting her with a bundle of banknotes. The cocotte does not esteem him any more. Suddenly, however, she discovers that the said youth has stolen these notes from an old gentleman, her protector. The cocotte is overjoyed. The youth is a thief, and, under these conditions, she no longer need withhold her esteem from him. A beautiful moral!

The new issue of "The Era" Annual has many other claims to consideration, for the 1913 issue, capitally edited by Mr. Frank Desprez, is as usual a perfect storehouse of useful information on all matters appertaining to theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, Paris, Berlin, and New York. In addition to the usual lists and tables of productions, revivals, &c., it contains many stories told by well-known actors and actresses, with excellent portraits of the authors. Among such contributors are Sir Herbert Tree, Sir Squire Bancroft, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Lydia Kyasht, and Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. The 1913 Annual not merely maintains its previous standard—in some respects it goes beyond it.—"Referee," Feb. 9, 1913.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Jan. 28.—Princess's Theatre.—Sole Proprietors, George Marlow, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Stanley Grant.—"No Mother to Guide Her" is the title of the melodrama which was staged here for the first time on Saturday evening, in the presence of a packed house. Mr. Robert Inman made an excellent curate, his acting in places being of a very high order. Mrs. Patterson was capably played by Miss Ada Guildford; Mr. Hilliard Vox, who plays the villain, did some excellent work; Miss Ethel Buckley as Nan, a slum girl, displays a deal of energy, and is successful in getting the house on her side. Miss Elwyn Harvey acts prettily as the heroine, and the remainder of the cast was in capable hands. The staging of the melodrama was excellent throughout.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—"Puss in Boots" is proving as successful as previous pantomimes. As the weeks run on there is no falling off in the attendances of both young and old playgoers. The amusing tumbling act, the clever dogs, the railway farce, and the other turns tacked on to the pantomime were all uproariously applauded on Saturday night.

Theatre Royal.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. G. H. Smith.—The last performances this season of "Antony and Cleopatra" will be given by the Asche-Brayton company on Friday night, but the popularity of this spectacular play may ensure its revival in the near future. "The Taming of the Shrew" will be revived on Saturday night, with Mr. Asche as Christopher Sly and Petruchio and Miss Brayton as Katharine. The preparations for the production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" are well advanced.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. G. H. Barnes.—That popular nautical drama, "My Jack," is still drawing large audiences, but Mr. William Anderson has decided to withdraw it after Friday night. On Saturday evening another of Mr. Anderson's companies will appear in "For the Term of His Natural Life," a stirring drama by the late Marcus Clarke.

Opera House.—Personal Direction, Hugh D. McIntosh; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—The present programme here is without doubt one of the finest presented for a long time. One of the latest additions is a company of sixteen Arabs, and they provide a turn which is remarkable. A new turn which is exceptional in another direction is that of De Marlo and Lady, contortionists, who present their feats in a novel and brilliant setting. De Biere also continues to mystify patrons by his wonderful illusions. No turn received more hearty recognition on Saturday night than that provided by Kitchen and Foy, the recently-arrived horizontal bar comedians. Other excellent contributions were given by Signor Alberto Marini, the tenor; Mlle. Rence, the refined instrumentalist; and Miss Nella Webb, the popular American diseuse.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Direction, Ben J. Fuller; Business-Manager, Mr. Tom Brennan.—The programme presented here on Saturday evening contained a number of new features, which appealed strongly to the patrons. The dance and patter artistes, Verne and Smith, were received with favour; Victor Francis, whose first appearance as a gymnast on these boards was warmly welcomed, exhibited remarkable talent in a line which is likely to prove a popular one; and a number of pictures completed the programme.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 17.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub-Lessees, Messrs. Chas. Howitt and A. Phillips.—All were delighted to welcome back the Howitt-Phillips company last night. The play selected was "A Member of Tattersall's." Mr. Howitt on his recent trip to England selected a good all-round company, and as their visit will extend to a month proof will be given of their abilities. It is hardly necessary to say Mr. Chas. Howitt is as great a favourite as ever, and the same can be said of Miss Doris Phillips, who is ever charming.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—The Three Keltons give a remarkably good musical act here. The Jackelow Trio, in their novel dancing, are very good. Pete and Minnie Lee (Scotch comedians) create roars of laughter with their dialogue. The pictures are all new and instructive and business is excellent.

Grand.—Manager, Mr. Davis.—An outstanding feature of the new programme here is the first appearance of the troupe of Russian dancers. Amongst other turns the Simlas give a good comedy and patter act, and Miss Dorothy Tancredi, a soprano vocalist, is much in favour. Bioscope pictures are as usual of first-class order ..

DURBAN, Feb. 16.—Criterion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—The star attraction here this week is the Three Sisters Macarte, whose clever act has been filling the house nightly. Joyce Vernon excels as a dancer. Athlone and Sinclair present a drawing-room gymnastic speciality act. Athlone's strength is wonderful, and the lady sings a catchy song.

Hall by the Sea.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—"General" Edward Le Vino, American juggler, is the star turn here. Mabel and Malfe, in a comedy and dancing act, quickly made good. The Rees Trio submit a very popular interlude. Rees, senior, presents a musical act; which is really good, and the hand-balancing and contortionist feats of Little Laurie wonderful. Business has been excellent.

Powell, the actor so eminent for his tragic powers, may be literally said to have felt "the ruling passion strong in death." When he was on his death-bed, and Mrs. Powell had left the room, Mrs. Hannah Moore, who sat by his bedside, was alarmed by observing his cheek suddenly assume a lively colour. He, at the same time, threw himself into the proper attitude, and exclaimed:—

"Is that a dagger that I see before me?"

A moment after this, as if sensible of his danger, he cried out, "Oh, God!" and instantly expired.

At the first of the series of lecture recitals given on Thursday afternoon at the Waldorf by Miss Henriquette Maude and Signor Belpassi, the lady greatly interested a distinguished audience in her brief chat on voice magnetism as applied to art and expressional culture. The almost complete neglect of the culture of the speaking voice in our schools is one of the most deplorable drawbacks in our educational system, and the majority of our boys and girls on going out into life have no pride in their heritage of Anglo-Saxon—the most expressive language in the world. Miss Maude also gave some character impressions from her répertoire, and recited with much elocutionary grace and power "The Story of a Faithful Soul." Signor Belpassi played Beethoven's Sonata Pathétique and one of his own compositions with much charm of touch and command of technique; and Mr. Thornley Dodge's impression of what would be the treatment of a late arrival on passing down a row of occupied seats in the dress circle of a crowded theatre created amusement. The entertainment was under the patronage of H.H. Princess Irene de Avierino Wiszniewska, Dora, Countess of Chesterfield, Lady Rushout, and Mrs. Cunliffe-Owen.

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WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., June 2, 16, 23, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., April 14, 21, May 5, 26, June 2, Aug. 18, 25, Oct. 6, 13, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, March 31, April 21, May 5, Aug. 11, 25, Sept. 1, Oct. 13, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 24, Dec. 8, Feb. 2, 9, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, April 21, May 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, Sept. 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, April 21, 28, May 12, 19, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, March 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 6, 20, Nov. 17, 24, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, May 12, June 2, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21, Aug. 4, 11, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Wolverhampton, April 21.
Reading, March 31, April 21.
Dalston, April 14 and 21.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, first-class Company for March 24, Northampton.
March 31, Reading.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, May 12, and few Autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
The Most Charming Theatre on South Coast.
Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
Open all the year round.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 31, May 5, Whit, and on, with exceptions.
Re dates, apply Jay and Mann.
Other coms., W. R. Wallis, Manager.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
March 17, April 7, 14, May 12, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 24, April 14, May 12, 19, on.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
March 17, and April 14, on.
Address, Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for April 7 and 14.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, April 21, on, with exceptions, Panto. Production for Christmas.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 7, 14, 21, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 7, May 5, Aug. 4, 11, and onwards.
Apply, Chas. G. Robinsons.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
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NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ——
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 31, May 5, July 14, Aug. 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Early Spring Vacancies.

Wanted, Large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" Pantomime next Season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for April 7, and the three nights commencing April 21. Bookings for spring, 1913, include: "Brewster's Millions," "The Queen Mother," F. R. Benson Co., "The Arcadians," "Babes in the Wood," "Cinderella," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Silver King," "Man and Superman," "The Girl in the Train," "The Speckled Band," "Hindle Wakes," and "The Count of Luxembourg." Applications for dates, Hugh Robertson, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, April 28.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19 (?).
O.H., BELFAST.
May 19, 26 (?).
O.H., CORK, May 5 (?).
G.T., SWANSEA, May 19, June 16, 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON,
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH.
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, April 14 (?), 21, 28, May 5.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, good twice-nightly Drama, new to Darlington, July 21 (?), July 28 (?).
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Masses - appealing Plays, July 21, Dec. 22, and Various, 1914.
Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. W.C.
Wires, "Aitenev-Ox-London." Upon all matters affecting the visit, day bill copy, plots, &c., Address, A. Mascard, Resident-Manager.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Touring Managers, Desirous of Negotiating Bookings to oblige by advising me of their forthcoming visits to suburban London theatres.
Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London.

GAIETY, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Twice - nightly Dramas. March 31, May 19, 26, June 2, Aug. 18. And various, onwards.
Address (re dates only), Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London.
Wires, "Aitenev-Ox-London."

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Only vacant dates, July 7, 21. Sept. 18 (3 nights), 22.
List of Bookings:—
"Mrs. Dane's Defence,"
Carl Hertz
"The Glad Eye" (return),
"Jelf's,"
"Dust of Egypt,"
"Quaker Girl,"
"When Knights Were Bold."
"Milestones,"
"Gay Lord Quex,"
"Ann," &c., &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, new to Stratford, April 7. June 16, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28. Aug. 4, 11, 25 (?),
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, London, E.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions, for weeks of April 28 and May 5.
Wire or write, to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee, Lieut.-Col. Winstanley.
Bookings, first three nights of each week.
WANTED, Companies, May 19, onwards.
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-st., S.W.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Building, holding £100.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Autumn.
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, S.W.
Tel., "Shrieking Charles, London" (2 words).

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.

WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 20, on.
Bookings include:—Carl Rosa Opera Co., "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," "Count of Luxembourg," &c.
Address, Sidney Bacon,
143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard.
Telegrams "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, NUNEATON.
WANTED, Wanted. Companies, Only vacant date this year, May 5.
All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long-acre, London, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 31, April 21, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
April 21, May 1 (3), 5, (3), 26, June dates.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
April 28, May 19. June 2. 9, 16.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
April 16 (3), 21 (3), 28, June 5 (3), 9, 16.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
April 7. 14 (3), 28.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
April 28. May 5 (3), 19, 26 (3). June 2.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
March 31, April 14, 21.
BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
June 16, 23.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
April 7, 14, 21.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

THE SPA, BRIDLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 1 and 8.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Wanted, First-class Attractions, Aug. 21, Sept. 4 and 8.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, SALTBURN.
THE GRAND HALL, FILEY.
Wanted, Good Companies, for few remaining vacant season dates.

THE PAVILION, PENZANCE.
THE PAVILION, NEWQUAY.
Wanted, Good Companies, for few vacant dates, Aug., Sept., and Oct.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Wanted, Sound Attractions, for May 12 (Whit.), Aug. 11. 25, Sept. 1 and 8.

W. Payne Seddon, 10-11, Jermyn-street, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Sedonitic, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 6534.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 17, May 1, 22 (3 nights each), also Whit. week. Wire, Macdona.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, April 14, April 14, April 14, April 21, April 21, April 21.
Address, J. M. Glover.
Drury Lane Theatre.

WANTED, Known, March 24. Spring Holiday, unexpectedly vacant. First-class Company. Wire, J. H. Savile, Perth Theatre.

PAISLEY THEATRE.
WANTED. Strong Attractions, Twice Nightly, April 28, May 19, 26.
Apply, J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Company (Perth), May 12; Also August Dates.
Apply, J. H. Savile, Perth Theatre.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

REPERTORY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
A few vacant dates at the above First-class Theatre May 19, onwards.

WANTED, First - class Companies. Offers invited. Melodramas excepted.
Apply, Basil Dean, General Manager.

INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, book Inverness Music Hall, September onwards. Vacant for New Year week. Manager, Munro Todd.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Now Booking for next Autumn.
Only a few vacant dates.
WANTED, Good. Sound Attractions. Apply to B. Blaiberg, 18, Ironmonger-lane, London, E.C.,
or to Ernest Archer, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, a Big Attraction, for Sept. 22; Nov. 10 possibly free; also Jan. 26.
Sidney Cooper.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Productions, Musical Comedy, Drama, or Variety. May 19, 26, June 9, 16, 23, 30, July, onwards, with exceptions. Also good Musical, Dramatic, or Variety Productions, for Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, March 31, April 7, 14, on, with exceptions.
Address, Alfred Manners, Empire Theatre, Swindon.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Whit week, July 14, 24, and Sept. 22.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager, March 10, H.M.O.H., Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedy, Dramatic, &c., Concert Parties and Entertainers.
Also Good Fit-up Companies required for No. 1 Dates.
Concert Artistes in all Lines required for First-class Costume Concert Parties.
All communications, General-Manager
WEST OF ENGLAND ENTERTAINMENTS AGENCY,
41, St. Mary-st., Cardiff.
Telephone, 2861.
Telegrams, "Bookings," Cardiff.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, First-class Company, March 31.
March 31.
Vacant through transfer.
Harry W. Day.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, May 5, 19, 26, and on. Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

PALACE THEATRE, PORTH.
OPERA HOUSE, TREHERBERT.
WANTED, First-class Dramas for April 7, 14, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23.
The premier drama houses of the Rhondda Valley.
Big business to good shows.
Apply,
Jack Poole,
146, Westgate,
Gloucester.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.
WANTED, strong Dramatic Attractions, twice-nightly, April 14, May 19, 26, June 9, and various Autumn and Spring, 1914. Full particulars, John A. Walker.

EMPIRE THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, Sound, Musical Attractions Only, that can follow "Miss Gibbs" and "The Arcadians," which have booked return visit, April 21, May 5, and 12.
Fast Booking the Autumn with No. 1 Shows.
All coms., W. Pardoe, Managing-Director.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, High-class Attractions Only. May 19, and onwards.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attractions, April 14, 28, and on, with exceptions. Notice to Managers, &c.—To avoid misunderstanding it should be known that Stanley and South Moor are practically joined together, and under the same Urban Council, therefore must be considered as one town. The T.R., Stanley, is run on good lines (once nightly), capable of any production. The best only entertained. All coms. to Mark H. Lindon.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies, for April 28 (?), May 26, June 9, July 14, Aug. 4 (?), and various dates onwards. Copy of day-bill and particulars to J. H. Curry, as above.

THE PIER AND GRAND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, May 8, 9, 10, three nights; also Whitsuntide, May 12, 13, 14 (three nights); Sept. 29, onward, three nights each. Extensive alterations being carried out to the stage, which will have a depth of 40ft.
W. Yates Gregory, General-Manager.

WANTED, Twice-nightly High-class Attractions, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham. Autumn Onwards.
Also
Twice-nightly Pantomimes, Xmas and New Year weeks.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies. Theatre Royal, North Shields, March 31.
Opera House, Workington. March 31, April 14, 21.
Grand Theatre, Lancaster. April 7, 28, May 5, 19.
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, Wanted, High-class Companies, April 7, Tunbridge Wells. March 31, Fulham.
Also April 14, T. Wells and Folkestone (3 each). April 21, Fulham.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 21, May 12, 19, 26.
Apply, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 14, 21, 28, on.
Wire, Horner, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, March 31, April 7, 14 (?), 21, and 28. Bookings include: "Hindle Wakes," "The Barrier," "Leah Kleschna," "Edged Tools," "Arcadians," "House in Order," "What Happened to Jones," &c., &c. Wire or write, Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for April 7, 14, and on, including Whit Week.—Address, E. B. Goulden.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 17, May 1, 22 (3 nights each), also Whit. week. Wire, Macdona.

THE NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
T.R., HALIFAX; T.R., BURY;
G.T., HALIFAX; T.R., ROCHDALE;
T.R., DEWSBURY; H.T., HUDDERSFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, Christmas, onwards, once and twice nightly.
Particulars to Otto C. Culling, Bury.

WANTED, First-class West-End Successes and really clever Concert Parties, for summer and season dates. Apply, Bellerby, Manager, King's Hall, Ilkley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, March 31. April 7, May 5, 12, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 24, Aug. 4, 18, &c.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, Sept. 1, 8, Andrew Emm.
Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED Wanted. Wanted. Wanted, for this Phenomenal Attraction, weeks of May 26 and June 9. weeks of May 26 and June 9.
Wire or write, to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.
WANTED. Wanted. Wanted. Wanted, weeks of April 21 and 28. weeks of April 21 and 28.
Once or Twice Nightly.
Wire or write, to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, or Large Halls, April 7, onwards.
Big Company. Full Chorus.
Real Negro Specialities.
All the Special Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington, Wimbledon Theatre, London.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, March 27, 28, 29, May 12, June 2, 23, 30, July 28, Aug. 4, 11. 25, Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 13. various on.
J. Pitt-Hardacre, Grand Theatre, Derby.

J. W. CORDINER & HARRY RICHARDSON'S Company.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
By Wilfrid Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, Wanted, March 31, March 31, March 31, March 31, April 14, April 14.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER.
March 17, GARRISON T., TIDWORTH (3).
March 20, MANAGERS' CLUB, 5, WARDOUR-STREET, W.

MADGE CRICHTON, in "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, 31 (three nights), May 5 (three nights), 19, June 2, Aug. 4. H. Crichton, 52, Westbourne-gardens, Hove.

MADGE CRICHTON, in "ANN," from Criterion Theatre.
WANTED, April 7. Haidane Crichton, 52, Westbourne-gardens, Hove.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Easter Week, North.
Through transferring, Berwick. Gordon Gray's No. 1 Panto., "Babes in Wood." Full company of 30, including Doyle and Gibson. Wire, March 10, Gray, Opera House, Workington; March 17, Theatre Royal, Stanley.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD COMPANIES.

The Original and Best.

A Column of Winners.

Good Wine Needs no Bush.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Success!!!
Success!!!
Success!!!

Verdict—Great Success.

If in doubt, refer to Mr. Wentworth Croke.

Copy of unsolicited letter received from Mr. Wentworth Croke.
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W.
Just a hurried line to congratulate you most heartily on your production here last night of a "Clever Impostor." It is a good show in every way; very well acted, and staged in the way that one now associates with your management. Wishing you all the success you deserve.

Enough said.

Everything travelled, including a Horse.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
May 5, 12, and Aug. 4 onwards.
May 5, 12, and Aug. 4 onwards.
May 5, 12, and Aug. 4 onwards.
May 5, 12, and Aug. 4 onwards.
May 5, 12, and Aug. 4 onwards.
May 5, 12, and Aug. 4 onwards.

Fast Booking the Autumn.
Fast Booking the Autumn.
Fast Booking the Autumn.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
April 21,
April 21,
April 21,
April 21,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
and onwards.
and onwards.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 4,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.

Re Dates,
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Holmdene, 3, River Bank, Hampton Court,
Telephone: 1,732, Kingston-on-Thames.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."

By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES
May 19, 26,
May 19, 26,
June 2, onwards.
June 2, onwards.
June 2, onwards.

Autumn nearly Filled.

The Ideal Twice-Nightly Attraction.

This is without doubt the finest Spectacular production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in Up-to-date Enterprise.

Managers delighted.

Thanks to Mr. C. W. Poole for contracts for all his South Wales Theatres after seeing show.

Managers please note that owing to the enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," this play will be Toured right through the summer.

Those with Vacant Dates please communicate for this very Strong Attraction.

Messrs. Hinton and Zillwood wish to assure Managers that "Allah's Orchard" is THE Success of 1913.

If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood Advertisement, it is so.

Re dates,
ARTHUR HINTON
Nat. THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
May 12, 19.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
March 24, 31, April 7.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
April 7, 14.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
April 7, 14, 21.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, July 7, 14, 21, Seaside; Sept. 1, 15, 22, 29, North, and onwards. Letters, Stafford, 23, Russell-square, Brighton.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT" and
"AFTER THE OPERA."

WANTED, Dates, April 14 (?), June 9, Aug. 18, Sept. 1 and 8, Oct. 20 and 27. George Waters, D.P.T., Eastbourne.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"THE HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH."
"A MODERN MAGDALEN."
"MAN AND HIS PARAMOUR."
"WIFE OR MISTRESS?"
"THE GIRL FROM LEICESTER SQUARE."
WANTED, Theatre for Stock Season.
Theatre for Stock Season.
FRED. BULMER,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."

WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 31, April 21, 28, May 5. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres. H. V. Neilson. To-day, Coronet Theatre, W. March 17, Grand, Hull.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN,"
"ROLLICKING RORY."

WANTED, no vacant dates till Spring, 1913. March 17,
Rostrevor, Poulton-le-Fylde.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 28, between Plymouth and Canning Town, May 19, to precede Hammersmith and Elephant.
Horace Stanley, to-day, King's, Worksop; next, Queen's, Dublin.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN,
And MISS BEATRICE WILSON,
And MR. NORMAN'S PRINCIPAL COMPANY.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
March 24 and 31.
Address, 4, Evelyn-road, Richmond.

HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS AND TOURS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, April 28 (follow Leicester, R.), May 5 (precede Belfast, R.), July 21-28, August 25, and various on. Everything carried. Refer here, Reading, and Torquay (last three weeks).
"MOTHERLESS."
Vacant, June 9, 16, 23, July 21, 28, August 4, 11, 25, and various on. Entire new production. Cast of 15 (including troupe of dancers).
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Production Date and various on. Gorgeous Production. Cast of 50 artistes.
"TEMPTRESS OF PARIS."
(Let to Messrs. Beckett and Laurence.)
P. T., Portsmouth (R.); next, Olympia, Coalville (R.).

The Great Farcical Success,
from the Duke of York's Theatre, London,
"THE AMAZONS."
By Arthur Pinero.
WANTED, March 31 (3), between Cheltenham and Harrogate, and July 28, on.
Address, Alfred Gray, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The Play that is Breaking Records Everywhere.
Now Booking Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, Wanted, April 28.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

"THE LIARS." "MRS. DANE'S DEFENCE."
By Henry Arthur Jones.
WANTED, Easter, April 21, Whit, and various on.
Full London Company,
including
Miss Mebel Mannering.
Wire, Millar Anderson,
To-day, T.R. Aston. Next, Manager's Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

WANTED, for "The Slave Girl," good Theatres for Sept. 1, 22, Oct. 6, Xmas, onwards. "A Lad's Love," June 2 and 23, owing to extended tour. Coms., T. E. Ward, O.H., St. Helens.

"THE WITNESS FOR DEFENCE," "THE THIEF."
WANTED, March 31, May 26, June 9, 23, cn. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
WANTED, March 31, on (follow Marlboro' and King's). Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

HARRY BRISTOW AND MAY FORDE'S
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, good Theatre, April 7 (Lancs. preferred). Wire, March 17, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, April 28, May 5, and 19, the Great Irish Drama, "Dan the Outlaw." Herbert Shelley, Hip., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"PASSERS-BY."
Sept. 1, 15, Oct. 30 (3 nights). Nov. 3, 17.
North and Midland.
Apply, Leslie Moreton,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, April 21, 28, Whit.
Edward Lloyd, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"THE OLD HOME."
WANTED, April 14, between Queen's, Poplar, London, and Prince's, Bradford. Wire, Adell. To-day, Grand, Plymouth; then Grand, Brighton.

GRAND EASTER PANTOMIME,
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatre or Pavilion, March 24 week, for this pretty and funny and refined Pantomime; splendid artistes, &c. Wire, Lizzie, Post Office, Gillingham, Dorset; after Thursday night, Post Office, Amesbury, Wilts.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
"AUTUMN MANŒUVRES."
Oct. 6.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
"THE CINGALEE."
May 19 (to follow Rochdale).
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"ANN."
MISS MADGE CRICHTON IN THE TITLE-ROLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W., or HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, Park-place, S.W.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
OR, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
May 19 (to precede T.R., Stratford).
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT;
OR, TURKISH DELIGHT."
A Musical Comedy Sketch.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
Production, Grand, Fulham, Easter Week.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286. Wires, "Ouseley, London."
E. P. MORGAN, General Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
March 31, onwards,
ARTHUR SHIRLEY'S
ARTHUR SHIRLEY'S
ARTHUR SHIRLEY'S
ARTHUR SHIRLEY'S
GREATEST SUCCESS,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
Feb. 24, Hippodrome, Rotherhithe.
March 3, Britannia Theatre.
March 10, Palace, Battersea.
March 17, Prince's, Portsmouth.
March 24, Theatre Royal, Aston.
The Best-acted Drama now Touring.
Everything carried.
For dates, FREDERIC BAUGH, Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.
London telegrams, "Stageyness, London."
Telephone, Central 5890.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."

WANTED, April 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, and onwards; also Xmas.

"IN A MAN'S POWER."
Wanted, May 26 and June 9.

J. Forbes Knowles, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
Entire Production Carried.
Once or Twice Nightly.
WANTED, April 7 and 14; First-class Theatres only.
Other plays if desired.
Ernest E. Norris,
Palace Pier, Brighton.

Mr. Sydney Poulter's Company
in Cyril Maude's Successful Play,
"DAD."
WANTED, April 3, 4, 5, May 12, and onwards.
Apply, Fellowes-Robinson,
Coronet Theatre, W.

Mr. Robert Burnett's Company in
"THE BEAR LEADERS,"
from the Comedy Theatre, London.
WANTED, April 7 and Autumn Dates.
Apply, Fellowes-Robinson,
Coronet Theatre, W.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" OR
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, Once or Twice Nightly, April 21, 28 (?), Lancashire.
Hamilton Stewart, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

FRED. GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."

The Dramatic Attraction That Never Fails.
The Most Perfect Production Touring!
ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING CARRIED.
Unexpectedly Vacant, Easter Week!
Wire! Wire!! Wire!!!
Also Wanted, March 31, April 7, and Later.
"AT THE MERCY OF THE MORMONS."
Still Causing a Sensation.
Play to Enormous Business.
Refer Any Theatre Visited as to Play, Company, and Production.
WANTED, April 14, 21, 28, and later.
April 14, 21, 28, and Later.
Re Dates: Fred. Granville,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams: "Granville, Pagoda, Liverpool."

O. SILVERSTONE'S SUCCESSES.
"THE RUIN OF A COUNTESS"
and
"THE NIHILIST."
An Ideal Double Bill.
Once or Twice Nightly.

WANTED, March 31, April 7, May 5, 12.
Wires,
Grand, Luton.
Letters, T.R., Woolwich.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The Real Thing in Cowboy Melodrama,
Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, for April 28 (Midlands),
Whit Week (Midlands or South).
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried. A clear stage only required.
Address, Geo. E. Carleton,
Theatre Royal, Castleford.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A perfect production. Refer all theatres visited.
WANTED, March 31, Aug. 4 (Midlands).
Lloyd and Bown, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

Leonard and French's Co.
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
WANTED, April 28, Whit., Autumn. Beating previous records. Refer Messrs. Jefferson, Esden, Milton Bode, Wentworth Croke.
Look out for New Production,
"A GIRL FROM ARIZONA."
Leonard and Foskett's Co.
Now booking Autumn, 1913, Spring, 1914.
Address, H. Leonard, Grand, Glasgow.

"KIT CARSON."
WANTED, Wanted. March 31, in or near London.
Also Autumn Dates.
C. H. LONGDEN,
County Theatre, Reading.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."

WANTED. March 31, April 7, Whit.

Fifth Visit to T.R., Belfast,
with these plays.

A Most Eloquent Advertisement.

Lole Esmond, T.R., Darlington. (Return.)
March 17, T.R., Belfast.

WANTED, First-class Theatres and Pavilions
for First-class Companies.
Musical Comedies, Dramatic, &c.,
First-class Concert Parties and Entertainers.
Also Good Fit-up Companies.
All communications, General-Manager,
WEST OF ENGLAND ENTERTAINMENTS AGENCY,
41, St. Mary-st., Cardiff. Telephone, 2861 Cardiff.
Telegrams, "Bookings," Cardiff.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Company vacant March 10, April 7. Only vacant dates until Autumn, which is rapidly booking. South Company, Spring fully booked. Vacant August 4, 11, few late Autumn.

This Play guaranteed the finest dressed and mounted Indian Play on the road. Will live, as it has a strong dramatic plot. Two Companies nearly full 1913, and now booking 1914. Refer to Messrs. Percy B. Broadhead; T. W. Rowe, Palace, Newcastle; J. Coulson, S. Shields; Leon Salberg, Alex., Birmingham, &c., &c

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

More New Beautiful Uniforms just being added, Scenery, &c.

Vacant Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Vacant Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Vacant Aug. 4, 11, 18.

Fast Booking.
Fast Booking.
Fast Booking.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

THE BOY DETECTIVE.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Production, Whit week, King's, Longsight.
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's Company.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Aug. 11, 25.
Vacant Aug. 11, 25.
Vacant Aug. 11, 25.

This is the Dramatic Theatre of the Town.
Business better each year.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.

South Co. Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
South Co. Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
South Co. Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

This Spring Fully Booked.

Managers of South and Welsh Towns who are afraid of booking this piece are requested to refer to Palace, Bordesley; then T.R., Stratford, where it did enormous; and T.R., Woolwich, and Star, Swansea. Whether North, South, East, or West this Play breaks records. Guaranteed the biggest dramatic success on the road to-day.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.

Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

H. MONTAGUE ASHLEY and CAMPBELL GOLDSMID'S COS.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
April 28, Aug. 4,
(follow Kelly's, Liverpool),
Sept. 8, 15, Nov. 3 (precede Stratford), Dec. 1, 8, 15, Oct. 20, 27 (Wales).

GRAND AUTUMN PRODUCTION,
"UNDER THE CANOPY."
By J. James Hewson.
The Great Russo-Jewish Play, of Intense Dramatic Interest.
Production Date,
Lyric, Hammersmith, Aug. 25.
Vacant Dates,
Sept. 1 (South), 15, 29 (South or Wales), Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 10 (follow Stratford),
Dec. 8, and Xmas.
Cast and Production second to none.
Note the Artistes engaged under our Management:—
Misses Muriel Haydn, Winnie Donovan, Pattie Groves, Anton Laing, and
MAUD MORTON POWELL;
Messrs. Fred Emery, Murray Yorke, Chas. Hartopp, J. G. Maine, Walter Hicks, Max Copeland, and CAMPBELL GOLDSMID.
Address, Metropole Theatre, Bootle.

W. J. CHURCHILL'S
MINSTRELS.
MINSTRELS.

W. J. CHURCHILL'S
MINSTRELS.
MINSTRELS.

WANTED, Oct. 6, 13, 20, and 27.
Wanted, Oct. 6, 13, 20, and 27.
Wanted, Oct. 6, 13, 20, and 27.
Wanted, Oct. 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Everything carried.
Can show one or two houses nightly.

All letters to W. J. Churchill,
Hippodrome, Devonport.

Mr. Alfred Denville's Production of
"THE MIRACLE."
"THE MIRACLE."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
April 14
and
April 21,
Between Liverpool (Olympia) and P.O.W., Birmingham.
Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London.
Wires: "Aitenev Ox, London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Leading Lady.
To rehearse next week.
Also required, Artistes in all Lines; to rehearse March 31.

Full particulars,
Fred. Granville, The Depository,
Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Character Old Woman (Big),
Two or Three Good
Knockabout Comedians,
Tall Character Actor,

Robust, Tall Leading Lady.
Must be young.

Frederic Baugh,
Sadler's Wells Theatre,

WANTED, Lady, for Gipsy (Scena); sing, dance; capable emotional part (small). Letters, photo, Leslie, 5, Redmans-road, E. Interview, appointment.

WANTED (rehearse immediately), Clever Child Actress; must be good dancer and vocalist. Age, photos, terms. Fulton, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, excellent opportunity for Amateur Lady, Small Part and Understudy, in well-known Farcical Comedy, now Touring; immediate engagement; premium required. Write, first instance, "J.," Box 4,477, "The Era."

"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, Gents, for Heavy Lead (Simon), also Robust Character Actor for Herne; rehearse E. and C. Theatre, Tuesday next. Address, with full particulars, references, and lowest terms,
Annie Bell, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

O. SILVERSTONE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Leading Man, Comedienne for French Maid, Juvenile Light Comedian, Straight Man for Doctor; Comedian with patter and song preferred. Age, height, photos, refs., lowest salary in all cases. Rehearse Tuesday, Woolwich. O. Silverstone, T.R., Woolwich.

WANTED, Robust Character Actor, with powerful voice, for new production. A long run to suitable man. Apply, Sandy McNab, 39, Hilldrop-crescent, Camden Town, London, N., to-morrow, Sunday, between 4 and 6.

WANTED, for Sketch Production, London, probably April 14, Robust Young Irish Actor for Juvenile Lead; also Irish Character Actor for Priest; good voices; capable of emotion essential. Photos, height, refs., lowest terms, to Miss Frances Ruttledge, 38, Fulham Park Gardens, S.W. (Letters only.)

WANTED, Lady Amateur, for small part and understudy in West End Comedy, on No. 1 tour; must be prepossessing and experienced. Write immediately, to Box 4,484, "The Era."

WANTED, good Male Dancer and Pantomimist (Character and Operatic).
Must be strong, for Gipsy character.
Only experienced man need apply.
Write first to G.,
6, Hill-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

WANTED, Four Young and Pretty Musical Comedy Ladies, with good voices and figures. Full particulars, Box 4,475, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Lessons in Singing, Pianoforte, Accompaniment, Coaching, Musical Comedy, &c.; evening lessons given; rapid progress assured; many years' varied experience; pupils visited. M. Taylor, 18, Foley-street, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lady Dramatist wants Small Part; sketch or otherwise; moderate salary (recommended). Box 4,418, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, First-class Artistes, for Principal Boy, in "Dick Whittington," next season. Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Experienced Manager for Picture Hall; seaside; North of England. State age, experience, salary. Box 4,488, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Thoroughly Experienced Electrician-Operator; must be competent, able repair, wire, &c. State references, particulars and wages: G. T. Sante, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
JULIUS PHILLIPS,
JULIUS PHILLIPS,
JULIUS PHILLIPS,
JULIUS PHILLIPS,
JULIUS PHILLIPS,
JULIUS PHILLIPS,
at present Manager of the Picturedrome, Town Hall, St. Austell,
will be at liberty March 24
to Accept a Residential Position of Responsible Management with Anything Connected with the Showman World. Proprietors Note: Self-praise is no recommendation; but, showmen, I raised my present show from the gutter to fame. Refer Mr. H. Burrow, Camborne, who is the proprietor of my present show.
What I have and control:
Ability,
Assiduity,
Energy,
Experience,
and, above all,
Tact.
All communications,
Julius Phillips,
Picturedrome,
Town Hall,
St. Austell.

WANTED, Known. Mr. Norman V. Norman is prepared to Read Plays (preferably farcical comedies and comedies). All MSS. must have stamped envelopes for return. 4, Evelyn-road, Richmond. (Letters only.)

WANTED, at once, Thoroughly Competent Resident Stage Carpenter; scenic artist preferred; useful all-round man; not afraid of work; able to bill and post. Send full particulars, references, and wages, to G. T. Sante, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, a good Working Master Carpenter. One that is used to doing a little scene painting preferred. To open Monday, March 24. All communications, enclosing last two references and terms, to
J. Chas. Imeson, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Carpenter; single; must be thorough bench hand. Age, refs., and lowest terms to E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Smart Young Billposter,

To combine
Night Duty in Theatre.

Apply personally,
Frederic Baugh,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.
Saturday, between 2 and 3 o'clock.

WANTED, Billposter; must be experienced high-ladderman; permanency for a steady, reliable man.—Apply. The General Billposting Co., Ltd., Pink-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, at once, Fly-Poster and Biller, signwriter preferred; excellent man only need apply, by letter only, Blattner, Scala Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Outdoorman and Caretaker; also Wife to assist in cleaning. Ex-soldier preferred. Must be abstainer and reliable man. Open March 17, 1913. Write, enclosing references, age, and height, to Signor Pepi, Tivoli Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Advance Agent (first class), Stage Management, or useful capacity; experienced; highest London references. George Leybourne, 30, Drayton-park, Highbury.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman, long experience, well known, and with influence, now managing old-established Variety Agency, is desirous of a change. Exceptional references. Salary and commission, or share. Further particulars, Box 4,474, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Manager; Resident or Touring; good producer; highest references. Taylor, 105a, Stockwell-road, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, Continuous Picture and Variety Show; good repertoire; abstainer; wages 45s. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Leader and Soloist for Ladies' Orchestra; high-class Concert Programmes, for England; May and June. Apply, Madame Stockham, Nieuwe Karseboom, Amsterdam. (Stamp 2½d. letter.)

WANTED, Violin Leader, Double Bass, and Drummer with Effects, for Public Hall, Runcorn, immediately; Pictures and Varieties. Apply, J. Horton, Musical Director.

WANTED, shortly, Violin (Leader), 'Cello, and Flute; experienced in pictures and varieties. Terms, 2, Nyddvale-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Good Leader, also 'Cello, and Cornet; must be well experienced in Var.; state terms, age, refs. John Holman, Hippodrome, Aldershot.

WANTED, Leader; thoroughly experienced; Variety and Pictures; abstainer preferred; permanency to right man. Terms, 35s. Age, refs, to M.-D., Olympia, Stirling, N.B.

WANTED, immediately, for Union Castle Line Continental Service, good Violinists and 'Cellos, also Pianist; engagement from next week until about end September; musical duties only and wages continuous. Apply, 415, Strand, Monday next, at 4 o'clock.

WANTED, Lady Violinist and Lady Flautist, about 24 weeks Tour; no Sunday work; used to Variety. Write terms, &c., Longstaffe, 10, Quex-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, March 22, First-class Violinist, as principal second in the Brighton Municipal Orchestra.
Apply, Lyell-Tayler, Musical-Director.

FALMOUTH,
ST. GEORGE'S HALL.
WANTED, to open March 24, First-class First Violin; must be thoroughly experienced in variety and picture work; twice nightly. Age references, and salary required, Harold Woodward, General-Manager.

WANTED, for ten weeks, at Filey, commencing June 30, First Violins, Flute, Clarinet, Cornet, Trombone, Bass; terms, refs. Sinclair, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Violin Players. Two good Violinists are Required to enlist in a crack Infantry Regimental Band, stationed in the West of England; double-handed men preferred; substantial bonus is offered to good men. Apply, with full particulars, to Department 12, c/o Hawkes and Son, Denman-street, Piccadilly Circus.

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, Piano (good), gent, or ladies; town or seaside; high-class hotels; first-class ref. required. Write, M. C. B., c.o. Gould's advertising offices, 54, New Oxford-street, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Tenting Season, for Small Circus, First Cornet, Euphonium, and Trombone player; a smart Young Man wanted for Advance Agent, must be able to drive pony and trap, and not afraid to use paste brush. Must be strictly sober and attentive to business. Will James Bradley write? Full particulars in first letter. Address, Thos. Pinder, Circus, Winchburgh, Scotland.

WANTED, Lady Violinists, also 'Cellists, accustomed to orchestral work; violin to combine piano and organ. Box 4,489, "The Era."

WANTED, Solo Cornet, also Trombone, to open March 17. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to Mr. Edwin Winter, Manager, Empire Music Hall, South Shields.

WANTED, immediately, for tenting Circus in Ireland, Solo Cornet and Euphonium; 32s. 6d. weekly. Apply, M. Corbett, 41, North-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, through disappointment, for Worthing Pier, from Good Friday until following Thursday, good Clarinet; must be up to orchestral concert work. State terms. Apply, Wright, 4, Liverpool-terrace, Worthing.

WANTED, for Buff. Bill's Circus, E-flat Bass and Trombone; comfortable shop. Wire, Dromara, Sat.; Dromore, Monday. Cunnington, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Trombone, join at once; permanency to suitable man; for Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie. Whitehurst, Bandmaster. Sat., Brynmawr; Mon., Tredegar, S. Wales.

WANTED, for the Tenting Season, Euphonium and Trombone Player, and Wanted, Smart Man for Advance Agent, one able to use paste-brush and drive pony and trap. State terms in first letter; must be strictly sober. Address, Thomas Pinder, Circus, Winchburgh, Scotland. James Bradley apply.

WANTED, to open Monday, with Sir Robert Fossett Circus (tenting), Sober and Good Euphonium. Wire, Cook, Tiffield, Towcester.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open on Monday, March 24. Apply, Thos. Walker, Musical Conductor, Lyceum, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Vacancy for 'Cellist; one year's engagement New York River Plate Service. State age, experience, refs., John C. Blamphin, 114, Alderson-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to commence March 24; must understand Variety business. Apply, stating full particulars, D. J. Clarke, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Oboe, First-class Variety. Permanency to good performer. Apply, age, refs., and terms, to F. Burns, M. D., Palace, Doncaster.

WANTED, Lady Flautist and Pianist, Whitsun to September. Miss Nellie Rennison, 23, Franklin-road, Bournville, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Flautist, to commence Easter Monday; must be well up in Variety and Musical Comedies. Terms, age, and ref. to H. Bull, M.-D., Hippodrome, Darlington.

PALACE, DONCASTER.
WANTED, First-class Orchestral Harpist, to open 24th inst. Must be experienced in Variety and Standard Works. Permanency to first-class performer. Apply, stating age, terms, and refs., to FELIX BURNS. Musical Adviser to Palace and Grand Theatres, Doncaster.

WANTED, Smart Pianist, sight reader. Apply, first instance by letter, to Westo and Norry, 128, Brixton-road.

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Pianist, Violinist, Viola, Bassoon, D. Bass, for Concert Orchestra for Easter week and Summer; seaside. State terms, age, Box 4,483, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist; Young Gentleman Accompanist, with and without music; able to sing, organise "sing-songs," entertainments, &c.; abstainers only. State qualifications and terms, in addition to board and lodgings, to J. Cunningham, The Holiday Camp, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, a First-class Man for Concerts and Private Dances as Double Drummer, Tympanist, Glockenspiel, and Xylophone, all the year round; must be a smart young man. Apply, with references, by letter, and state age, to Mr. Moritz Wurm, 5, South Villas, Camden-sq., N.W. Only very smart men for the above instruments need apply. Can start almost immediately.

WANTED, Smart Double Drummer; must be well up in variety and have all effects. Age and references to Wm. Burgess, Palace Theatre, Tottenham, N.

ILFRACOMBE TOWN BAND.
WANTED, to open April 28, Military Band Players; all instruments write; double-handed men preferred; lowest, and refs. W. J. White, 28, Bailey-st., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, full Military Band Instrumentalists, March 20, out of town; rehearse Tuesday, March 18, in London; only London gentlemen apply. Bandmaster, 74, Florence-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Strings, Wood-wind, Brass, Tymps., for orchestra of 14, for March 22, 23, 24, for Imperial Russian Ballet and Concert Programme. Terms, &c., Bellerby, King's Hall, Ilkley.

WANTED, a Small String Band, for April 7 week, Empire Theatre, Grays.
Fredericks Electric Theatres, Ltd.,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

ABERYSTWYTH MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Musicians (must be first-class), June 16 till Sept. 27 (inclusive); twice daily. Reference, stating age, lowest terms, J. H. Rowe. Musical-Director, Glencairn, North-parade, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, first-class Orchestral Musicians for summer season from Whit week. State all particulars, Box 4,480, "The Era."

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contrabassists, to register for Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black's Orchestras (Atlantic Liners, Picture, and First-class Hotels).
Applicants required to attend audition in Liverpool or London. State age, experience, and give two responsible references for personal character. Apply by letter, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Ladies' Orchestra, for the
St. Anne's-on-the-Sea Pier, Lancashire,
from July 6 to Sept. 28, 1913.
Apply, with full particulars and stating terms for eight and ten artistes respectively.
William H. Nutter,
Secretary and Managing Director.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting engagements at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Whitley Bay, and Tynemouth, to communicate with A. Stuart, 35, Grainger-st. East, Newcastle-on-Tyne; South Shields and North Shields, 48, Mowbray-rd., S. Shields; Roker and Sunderland, J. Murgatroyd, 103, Ward-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Musical-Director (Solo 'Cellist), to Provide Orchestra, hotel or first class picture house; extensive repertoire. Musical-Director, 66, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Musical-Director (Violin or Piano); any business; good library; highly recommended. Apply Box 4,482, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Arthur Workman, the most-talked-of Conductor in America, concluding most successful Tour with Miss Ada Reeve, sailing for England per Franconia March 12, bringing all the Latest Rag-time Successes; can open immediately; Seaside, Musical Comedy, or High-class Vaudeville; eight years at Hippodrome, Leeds. Address, 6, Ellers-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor (Violinist and Pianist), late Musical-Director Palace, Southampton, Coliseum, Whitley Bay, &c. (good library); thoroughly experienced. Conductor, 27, North-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, a thoroughly experienced Conductor is at liberty to accept Engagement in first-class Music Hall; highest references. Box 4,473, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Conductor, to supply Orchestral or Military Band for summer; any number. Conductor, 355, Chiswick High-road, London, N.

WANTED, by Conductor, young (28), single, smart appearance, Post as Mus. Dir., either resident or tour; highest refs. and testimonials. Large, up-to-date library. Not a has-been. Can open Monday. Wire or write, Conductor, Box 4,479, "The Era."

WANTED, by first-rate Solo Violinist (Lady), Engagement in London as Leader in Orchestra; thoroughly experienced. Box 4,470, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Violinist wishes to join Harp, pitching, or on pleasure steamer; equal shares. Richard Stead, Hanby-lane, Alford, Lincs.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist, Engagement; any business; London or South Coast preferred. Apply, Box 4,476, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist, late of Empire Hotel Orchestra, Bath; at present Leader Ladies' Orchestra, Waterloo-road Picture House, Blackpool. Violinist, 42, Alexandra-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarinet; Pictures, Variety; experienced, reliable; good refs. Clarinet, 3, Albion-grove, Colchester.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, Competent Solo Cornet. Box 4,465, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, disengaged. Address,
Cornet, 52, Fortune Gate-road, Willesden, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Cornet; just finished two years Hippo., Southend; age 25; reliable. Bentley, Hippodrome, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by first-class young Solo Cornet; excellent references. Address, Cornet, 355, High-road, Chiswick, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarinetist; experienced all lines; first-class refs.; can double 2nd Violin; any bus. or deputise. Clarinet, 54, Newton-street, London, N.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement. Experienced man. Good refs. Box 4,332, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass; young, 7 years' experience, Theatre, Café, or Cinema; London only; would deputise. D. Bass, 20, Lincoln-road, South Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone or Euphonium Player, through closing Pavilion Theatre. Experienced any business. Apply, W. R. Penn, 25, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola and Violin; can open at once; four years De Frece Circuit and London halls. J. Elder, 6, Mossbury-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cello; London district; any business; steady and reliable. 'Cello, 69, Farmers'-road, Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Oboeist, steady and reliable. Experienced any business. Oboeist, 42, Cazenove-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist (high and low pitch); best cartes instruments; good references. Flautist, 36, Wellesley-street, Stepney, E.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist; experienced in all lines. Address, Harry Littler, 131, Burlington-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by Harpist, brilliant Soloist, Summer Engagement. Maud Estlin Grundy, 78, Parkhill-rd., Hampstead. 'Phone, 167 Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, Harpist, Disengaged. Thoroughly experienced solo and orchestral player. Box 4,043, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Organist-Pianist. Disengaged every evening. Four years' Cinema experience. Organist, 11, Church-road, Acton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist and Organist, at Picture Theatre; one or two days weekly; good performer. Address, Composer, Box 4,443, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist; experienced in picture business.
Nicholson, 15, Rand-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Young Lady Pianist; orchestral experience; sight reader; hotel, hydro, or café orchestra preferred; excellent vocalist (contralto). Kathleen Twist, 4, Wellington-street, Garston, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist-Violinist; highest references; hotel, municipal orchestras, &c. (orchestral and soloist). Pianist-Violinist, 27, North-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects; any business; 18 years' exp.; steady and reliable. Morris, 63, Dechmont-street, Parkhead, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums, &c., also Violin; can open at once, through reducing orchestra; any business. Tidswell, Hip., Accrington.

Summer Tour of Holiday Resorts.
WANTED, Known, High-class Concert Party has vacant dates. For particulars apply Box 4,385, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Strebelle Ladies' Orchestra, first-class soloists and vocalists; large repertoire; dis. for home or Continental engagements; also good quartette. Strebelle, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, Engagement, at Seaside, by First-Class Orchestra; large or small; Dance Music a speciality; extensive and up-to-date library. Apply, Box 4,407, "The Era."

WANTED, by the Cardiff Cinema Orchestra, five performers, two years' excellent testimonial. At liberty March 31. Only high-class Cinema or Hotels entertained. Apply to Herr Rauscher, 7, Parton-street, Southampton-row, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, for England and the Continent, for
MADAME STOCKHAM'S
ENGLISH LADIES' ORCHESTRA.
The ensemble comprises the world-famed STOCKHAM HARP TRIO,
Two Vocalists, and Soloists on Violin, 'Cello, Flute and Piccolo, Trombone and Cornet.
10 to 20 Artistes.
This Orchestra is now fulfilling a four months' engagement at the Karseboom, Amsterdam.
Free July 1, onwards.
Apply, Karseboom, Amsterdam.

Bands for Balls, Dinners, and Receptions.
WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players. 29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras; three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Mme. Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Baker's American Circus, Enniskillen, Easter Monday, March 24. CALL
For Artistes and band (no excuses taken), Rehearsal, 11 o'clock prompt; Procession, 1 o'clock prompt; Day Show, 3 o'clock prompt.

KNARESBOROUGH WATER CARNIVAL,
Aug. 20. Outdoor Fête.
WANTED, Aquatic or Wire Artistes. State terms, length of turn.
C. Hebblethwaite, Hon. Sec.

WANTED, Circus Acts of every description for Miniature Circus, at Whitsuntide.
Manager, Circus, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, at once, a Smart, Steady Tentmaster; also a few Tentmen. Aldress, J. Swallow, Circus, Monday, Cinderford; Tuesday, Coleford; Wednesday, Monmouth.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
BIG SPECIALITY ACTS,
BIG COMEDY ACTS,
BIG ANIMAL ACTS,
for
Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, Southport, and
Artistes in all lines for other towns.
Send dates, terms, &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, for Monday next, and onwards, Star Specialities, Comediennes, Sisters, and drawing Top-liners. Four weeks certain. Pickard, Trongate, Glasgow.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for March 24, Big Holiday Attractions, Really Funny Pantomimic Acts, Comedy Acrobatic Troupes, Mystic Novelties, and anything calculated to make the people talk. Also Acts of every description for the following dates:—March 31, April 28, May 5, 12, onward, with exceptions. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager.

EMPIRE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Strong Tops for March 31 and onwards.
Share or Certainty.
Nothing Too Big.
All communications to
W. K. Chatto, Manager,
Empire,
Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines. March 31, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
'Phone, 1075 Charing Cross.
Wires, "Cockney, Glasgow."
WANTED, Several Big Tops (Salary or Sharing), and Artistes of every description, until March 24 week, 1913. Full list of bookings, lowest terms, lithos, &c., immediately. Represented all over the country. Interviews by appointment only.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Star Top Liners, the very best (money no object), March 24, 31, onwards.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
Phone, 4195. Wires, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

Telegrams, "Lively," Newcastle-on-Tyne.
"L.C.C."
Agency (London, Country, and Continental).
Controller, Geo. H. Smythson.
WANTED, Novelty Acts, new to Scotland and North England. Lowest terms (first letter, or useless writing), list of bookings, and pictorials. As we run as exclusive an Agency as possible, Acts on several Agents' lists save stamps. Also require Acts for South Coast—early dates.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all lines; Comedy Acts, big Specialities, March 24, on. Terms, bookings, lithos, to Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbings," 'Phone, 9,261 Central.

WANTED, for Grand Variety Competition at Sadler's Wells, Bow, and Battersea, Thursday night, Forester's Thursday matinée, Variety Turns; £1 prize. Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre. Stamp for reply. Also rag-time dancers for big rag-time competition; £20 in money prizes.

WANTED, First-class Combinations, Good Variety and Comedy, April 7 and 14, onward. Apply, Manager, Hippodrome, Ashington.

WANTED, a Young Comic Knockabout Gymnastic Tumbler for First-class Act (no amateur); state age, height, weight, and tricks in first letter; also photo, which will be returned; long engagement to a suitable reliable man. Apply, Knockabout, Box 4,486, "The Era."

WANTED, good Comedy Tumbler; no double tricks. State age, height, weight, experience; exact tricks, and lowest terms, all found for speciality act. Letters only, "Sharley," 10, Beach-street, Ladywood, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

Immediate Dates.
Wire or write,
CHRIS TOWLER,
Birmingham Stage Agency,
138, Bristol-road,
Birmingham.
Telephone, South 168.
WANTED, Wanted, Star Acts,
Wanted, Star Acts,
Wanted, Star Acts,
Wanted, Star Acts,
Wanted, Star Acts,
Wanted, Star Acts,
Wanted, Star Acts,
for
Important Provincial Music Halls,
March 24, and onwards.

WANTED, Acrobats, Trapeze, Animals, Lady Globe Runners, Jugglers, Trick Cyclists, and Suitable Acts for Galas.
Whitsuntide to end August.
State lowest terms per day (not week). Rails paid. Lithos., Bills, and permanent address. No callers.
Sylvester's Agency, 271, Clapham-road, S.W.
Benhills write.

CHURCHILL'S MINSTRELS,
LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, to Commence May 12, 1913, good all-round Comedian and Knockabouts, Double Turns.
All must black.
Letters to Hippodrome, Devonport.

WANTED, Comedian who can play an instrument to join music-hall sketch. Write to Box 4,481, "The Era."

WANTED, Expert Child (girl) Dancer, single turn; age not to exceed 14; prettiness and competence essential; act to precede West-End success on tour. Write immediately, with full particulars, to Box 4,485, "The Era."

WANTED, Boys and Girls, over 14 (to look younger); must be small; good dancers and vocalists. Apply, with song, 11.30 Monday, John Thacker, Rehearsal Hall, 22, Maiden-lane, W.C.

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and
NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

ALFRED WELLESLEY,
ALFRED WELLESLEY,
in a Delightful Comedietta,
"UNCLE'S COURTSHIP."
WANTED, March 31, between Empire, Sheffield, and Empire, Newcastle.
And April 14, precede Edinburgh. Booked into 1915 by Moss, Stoll, De Frece, Barrasford, Gibbons, Syndicate, &c.
Three Artistes. Runs 18 minutes.
To-day, Hippo., Yarmouth (Top).
March 17, Pce., Westcliff-on-Sea (Top).

WANTED, Easter Week, also March 31 by Edwin Firth and Co.,
in the Spectacular, Military Comedy Act,
"CHANGING GUARD."
Scene, Whitehall. Uniforms, The Lifeguards.
Seven People. A Strong Top.
Also, the Great Comedy Sketch,
"NON-SUITED,"
And "DESPERATION," &c.
Wanted, Easter and March 31.
E. Firth, this, T.R., Bury St. Ed.; next, Guildford.

WANTED, Monday next; also Easter week; Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina). Pavilion, Carnoustie, N.B.

WANTED, April weeks and May 19, onwards, by Venturini,
by Venturini,
by Venturini,
Great Illusion Act. Three new clever Illusions. Two Lady Assistants. Sensational Refined Attraction. Good Top or Bottom. Real Draw for everywhere. Ask Manager Hounsell, Queen's, Berwick-on-Tweed. Ask Manager R. Heslop, Pavilion, Burnopfield. Ask Manager Hawkins, Empire, Cambridge. Ask Manager Dean, Palace, Arbroath, N.B. Ask Manager Buckton, Pavilion, Grange Villa, and you will hear what my show is. A draw. Venturini. This, Pavilion, Grange Villa, Co. Durham. March 17, Elite Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Monday next, March 17. Wire, 12, Weymouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester. The Great Rohde and Roche Present their Original Comedy Pot-pourri Act, "The Chameleon, The Artist and IT." Also vacant, March 24 and 31.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, 1913, by the Three Hodginis (Human Aeroplanes), Continental Sensational Aerial Show. Mlle. Deton et Page, Marvellous Juggling Balancing Feats on the Slack Wire. Fraulein Ellen Laurello, Sensational Musical Gymnastic Act. Own four kinds attractive lithos. Full Star Gala Co. if required, moderate. Particulars, 17, Lime-grove, Henshaw-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 17, 24, 31, on (South Wales), DONNA'S TRIO,
Aerial Equilibrists and Gymnasts. A good Top. Clean, clever, original act. One lady, two gents. Wire, Workman's Hall, Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, March 24, also March 31. The Three Calbas, Comedy Acrobats in a Billiard-room; Funniest Act ever seen; audience screaming. Calbas, P.O., West Stanley. Perm. add., 212, Heemstraat, Hague, Holland.

WANTED, March 24, 31, April 7, Wales or Manchester way. Sorry to refuse numerous offers, this is not a one-dog Act.
Chard's Canine Wonders,
Palace, Glanamman, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Horace and Olga's Great Table Troupe of Dogs and Cats, vacant, March 24, 31. Brookhouse Farm, Chigwell.

WANTED, Noted, Peter Adair, the Royal Athlete, Walked to Marlborough House last Friday week and took good Queen Alexandra box labelled "Bourneville," which means "Excelsior." Bottle of Pascall's Maltex Confections, which look like gold and as good, White Heather Forget-me-Nots, and You'll Remember Me, from Miles the Florist, Covent Garden.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, Light Comedian (good voice); used concert party, &c.; 12 months' contract. Write, Graham, Surrey Theatre, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Open in High-class Shop, a Good Fasting or Trance Subject. Also want to Engage for Long Term Artist Model. Must be good figure and understand posing; statuary, &c., à la Milo. Apply, 36, Gardner-street, Brighton. Not for this town.

WANTED, Two Good Constant-showing Novelties. March 17 and 24; shares or salary. Wire or write particulars, Manager, Museum, 262, Edgware road, London.

WANTED, for Pleasure Grounds, [illegible] Edge, opening Good Friday, Pierrots, Roundabouts, Stalls, Games, Palmist, &c. [illegible] terms. Director, 80, Highgate, Kendal.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

PLEASURE BEACH,
BLACKPOOL.
PLEASURE BEACH,
BLACKPOOL.
England's Premier American Amusement Park.
Forty Acres on the Sea Front.
WANTED, Wanted, Known.
To Showmen.
Concessions for Real Novelties Considered.

SHOWMEN AND OTHERS.
WANTED, Six or Seven Good Side Shows and Entertainments for Marine Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea. Joy wheel and others already booked.
Apply at once to G. E. Nye,
Billiter-square-buildings, London, E.C.

AUSTRALIA.
AUSTRALIA.
AUSTRALIA.
WANTED, Known, W. Brooks, Swing-ball Worker, of Fulham, London, and Assistant have returned after four years' successful tour in Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand.
Permanent address, 64, Chancery-lane, London.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, French Giant, 18 years old, 2 metres 12 high, weight 160 kilos; new for England; contract, share, or salary. P. Dannonay, Impresario, 3, Rue Félissent, Lyon, France.

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Abe Levene, at liberty; accept good shop at seaside for summer. Address, 3, Flanchford-rd., Ravenscourt Park, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, smart appearance, speaking King's English, Requires Place as Doorman on Cinema or Shows. H. Tipton, 39, Wood-street, Westminster, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, ½d. and 1d. Slot Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell.—To Cannon Photo Workers and Signet Ring Workers, &c., Photo Brooches, good flash front, well gilded, 3s. 6d. a gross; Signet Rings, from 6s. a gross. Sample parcel, 1s. J. Collins and Co., 95, Vittoria-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, good Little Living Waggon, cheap; 9ft. by 6ft.; also Camel Pony. Address, Mrs. H. Sloan, 10, Stanley-street, Lowestoft.

WANTED, to Sell, Roundabout, full size, complete, with vans, etc. (poultry).
Apply G. H. Newton,
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WANTED, to Sell, Fair, Good, and Rifle Range Supplies; Targets, all kinds, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, &c. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, Wanted, to Buy, Steam Roundabout; good Second-hand.
Apply, A. B., Dashwood House, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors.
Address, Arthur Milton, 77, Virginia-st., Southport.

WANTED, to Let, temporarily, Shop, for Auction Sales; main street of Doncaster; rent £6 per week. Alfred Stubbs, Askern, Doncaster.

Channel Islands Trades' Exhibitions.—Jersey, March 24, April 12; Guernsey, April 19, May 3.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Approved Novelty Stands, also Jewellery and Optician. Apply, Manager, Exhibition, Jersey.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

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WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, or Let, splendid Domestic Drama, by Leading Author. Star Parts for Pathetic Old Man and Juvenile Lady. Full plant of printing. Coms., Box 4,423, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up to date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont Graphic, 14 days old; change twice weekly. Best offers, Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Pantomime Costumes, including 30 Armour Dresses, 12 Knight Dresses, Hunting Suits and Riding Habits; also Three complete Sets of Babes' Dresses (Babes in the Wood); also other Wardrobe Principals, &c., cheap. To be seen Tuesday next.
Apply, Florrie Forde,
4, Crowhurst-road, Brixton.

WANTED, to Sell 20 wigs, 7 costumes, Sir Peter Teazle, Village Priest, Farmer Allen, Sir Anthony Absolute, &c., the property of the late Frederic Robinson. Offers invited. Can be viewed at any time.—7, Camden-square, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Powerful Arc Lamps, One Cellar Lamp, a Violet Velvet Drop Curtain for back and sides, Ground Cloth, and Three Baskets; all practically new. Apply, any morning, 293, Brixton-road, for fuller information an appointment to view.

WANTED, to Sell, two remarkably well Portable Stages, 18 by 15 and 12 by pierrots, band-stands, or any performance new, a bargain if cleared at once, 36, street, Brighton.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Seating. Popular Tip-ups, 2s. 9d. each; Cinema Tip-ups, 3s. 6d. ea.; Star Tip-ups, 4s. 6d. ea.; Hippo. Tip-ups, 5s. ea.; Pit Seating, 1s. per foot; Pit Seating, upholstered, 1s. 6d. per foot; genuine Plush and Pegamoid leather. Reliance Theatre Supply, Ltd., 26, Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham. 'Grams, "Reseata, Birmingham."

WANTED, to Sell, Small Aberdeen Bitch; does Cards. Also Half-bred Pom. (Dog); Somersaults, Jumping, &c. Seen evenings. C. Dickel, 52, High-street, Poplar.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, one of Savage's Patent Petrol Light Plants; must be in good condition, and cheap; spot cash paid. Write, Bloom's No. 1 Royal Auction Mart, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Clever Trick, also Somersault Dog.
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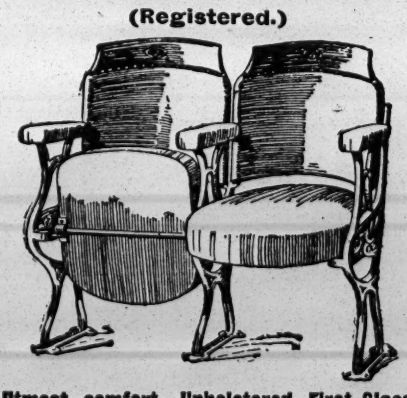

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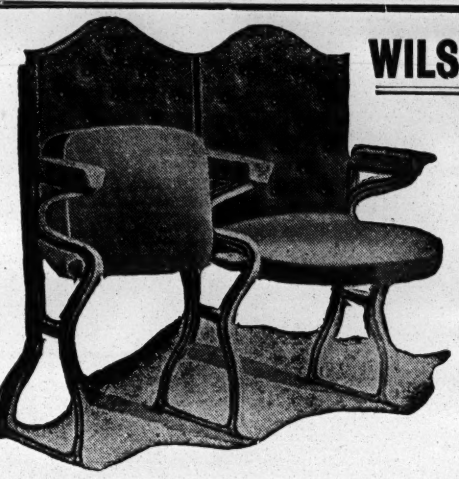

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HART, SAMUEL, Variety Agent, 24, Endymion-road, Brixton Hill. 'Phone, 116 Brixton. Tel. address, "Sammelst, London."

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March 17, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

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March 17.
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TYMES, THE. Prettiest of all Song Scenas, "The Enchanted Clock" (3446). Newly Staged and Dressed. Vac. Easter Monday. 21, South-av., Burnage-lane, Levenshulme, Manchester.

WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy). This, Emp., Middlesbrough. Next, vacant. Wire, 16, Mysore-rd., Clapham Junction.

WHEELER'S (late Beecham and Wheeler) Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, 12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Tel., 1280 Ger.

WHITEMAN, J. C.
Entertainment Expert and Variety Agent.
Pack Horse Hotel, Briggate, Leeds.

WILDER BROTHERS,
Pyrotechnic Artistes, Gala and Fête Agents.
29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser.
At liberty March 24.
Wire or write,
Wilson, Comedian, Crosshill, Glasgow.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. Perm., 30, Rue d'Orsel, Paris. Address, Picturedrome, Long Eaton. Vacant, March 17, 31, May 5, on. Share or certainty if required with Own Company.

ZENITH and WHYTE.
"The Jelly Wobble."

APPLICATIONS for POSITIONS on the BACK PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the Publisher.

RE-ADDRESSING.

Artistes using "The Era" Office as their permanent address can have their letters re-addressed immediately on their arrival by giving information to the Manager, "The Era" Letter Department.

"At the risk of being considered ungallant, I must express the opinion that the average lady ventriloquist is not very convincing, the difference in the voices being so slight. The best I have yet heard to overcome this defect is Miss Josephine Langley, who has been appearing at the Leeds City Varieties this week. Her 'boy's' voice is full and deep as the youth of fifteen whose voice is breaking, and her other voices are quite distinct in pitch and intonation. It is altogether a clever performance. She learned the art by mimicking her brother, who was a successful ventriloquist, now retired from the stage, and has been at it since twelve years of age, though she has only been two years on the halls."—"Yorkshire Post," Dec. 31, 1912.

JOSEPHINE LANGLEY,

The New Lancashire Lady Ventriloquist.

Several Tours Broadhead, V.T. Controlling Coy., Stoll, Coliseum, London Syndicate, and for every independent Hall away from the Tours. Fully Booked from Jan. 1, 1912, till Dec. 7, 1914. All contracts by my Sole Agent:

WILL DALTON.

March 17, HIPPO., SHEFFIELD. W.D.

TOBY CLAUDE

IN HER

PETIT CABERET

the latest and smartest act from Broadway.

GIGANTIC SUCCESS

first week at the Hippodrome, Boscombe.

March 17th, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

This act immediately booked up all the principal English and Continental Managers.

List of Bookings next week.

Sole Representative:
DAY'S AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL HOME

(founded by "The Terriers," 1896)
now removed to 53, ALEXANDRA-ROAD, GIPSY-HILL, S.E., adjacent to Gipsy Hill Station. A delightfully situated suburban residence.

Aged and Infirm Members of the Music Hall profession are provided with a comfortable Home, which is conducted on strict business lines, whereby the maximum of benefits are bestowed at a minimum of expense. See yearly Balance-sheets and Reports.

President, MR. WALTER DE FRECE.
Chairman and Treasurer,
MR. HARRY BARNARD.

The Committee meet at 69, Kennington-road, the first and third Friday in every month at 3.30 to consider applications for admittance to the Home.
J. SPARROW, Secretary.

A BOLT FROM THE BLUE.

THE WHOLE OF THE PROFESSION :: :: STAGGERED, BEWILDERED AND AMAZED.

WHAT! —

DR. BODIE

AGAIN

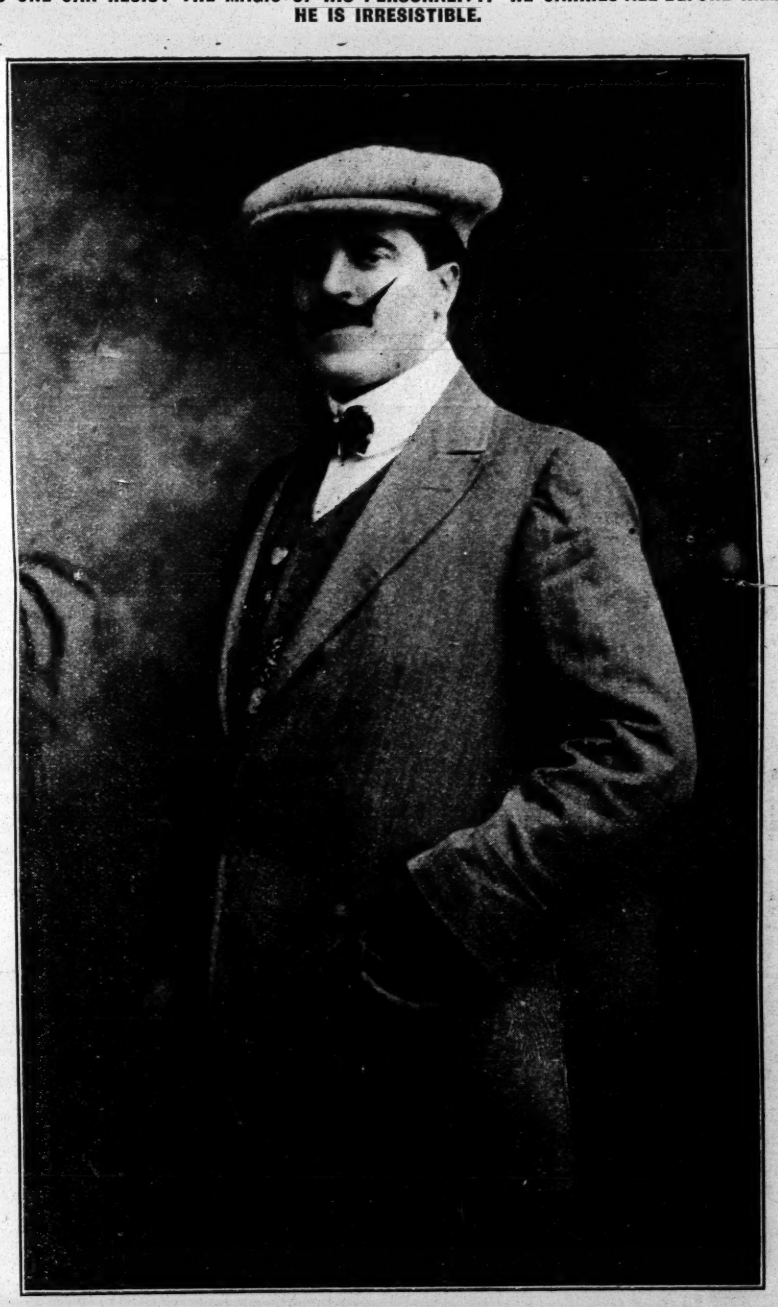
IN GLASGOW?

YES! —

AND A VERITABLE TRIUMPH.

Despite all the cruel and slanderous statements made from time to time against the good name of Dr. Walford Bodie, and the unjustifiable and cruel attacks made upon him, he appeared again in Glasgow last week, opening at the Lyceum Theatre to houses packed from floor to ceiling. On making his reappearance he was cheered to the echo again and again, several minutes having elapsed before he could proceed with his performance. Such scenes of wild enthusiasm have seldom been witnessed in any Music Hall in Glasgow. In both his big acts he fairly brought the house down, being recalled again and again, a speech being demanded at every performance. On Friday night he was visited by the students from Gilmore Hill University, Glasgow, who gave him an excellent hearing, a deputation of them waiting upon the Doctor afterwards and personally complimenting him on the excellence of his performance. He has promised to give them a private demonstration of his powers and claims on his return to Glasgow in a few weeks' time. Dr. Bodie had a rousing send off on Saturday night at both houses, which were packed to the doors, all the seats in the dress circle and stalls having been sold in advance at increased prices, and hundreds were turned away.—*Vide Press.*

NO ONE CAN RESIST THE MAGIC OF HIS PERSONALITY. HE CARRIES ALL BEFORE HIM. HE IS IRRESISTIBLE.



Dr. WALFORD BODIE (The Laird o' Macduff).

The "Glasgow Evening Times" says, Feb. 25, 1913:—"Dr. BODIE AGAIN IN GLASGOW AT THE LYCEUM."

Dr. Walford Bodie and a full variety company are responsible for the chief entertainment at this popular Clydeside house. The large audiences who attended both "houses" last night witnessed both as an instructive and amusing two hours' entertainment as one could wish for. Dr. Bodie's performance needs no introduction. Suffice it to say that all he performed last night was followed with much interest. He is a ventriloquist of the first water, and during his sketch "The Laird's Highland Party," he speaks in no less than fourteen different and distinct voices. A clever illusionist is Albert E. Bodie, son of Dr. Bodie, and during the time he occupies the stage he completely mystifies his audience. Dolly Robson of Coatbridge, fairly brought down the house by her singing of Dr. Bodie's song, "Heroes of the Titanic."

The "Glasgow Evening News" says, Feb. 25, 1913:—"Dr. BODIE AT THE LYCEUM."

The cordial receptions accorded Dr. Bodie must have exceeded his most sanguine expectations. As a ventriloquist, Dr. Bodie is second to none, and in "The Laird's Highland Party," in which he speaks in fourteen different voices, he gave of his best. Then with his scientific "show" he left the audience bewildered, and the "mediums" hypnotised created roars of laughter by reason of their antics. He is ably assisted by his son, Albert E. Bodie, a clever illusionist: Dolly Robson, vocalist; Lily Lonsdale, comedienne; Mdlle. Vine, concertinist; Wee Mona Turus, comedienne; the Three Eltons, horizontal bar comedians; Ernie Myers, comedian; and Mdlle. Sara's living pictures.

The "Weekly Press" says, March 1 1913:—"Dr. BODIE AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE—RECORD HOUSES."

"Dr Walford Bodie, who is no stranger to Glasgow, proved himself to be a prime favourite. Standing room only has been nightly the order during the Doctor's week. All his performances are followed with intense interest. As a ventriloquist he is in the forefront of his profession, and during his sketch "The Laird's Highland Party," he speaks in fourteen different and distinct voices He also introduces his up-to-date sensational performance of Electric, Hypnotic and Magnetic Wonders, assisted by the beautiful "LA BELLE ELECTRA." His son, Albert E. Bodie, society illusionist, gave a splendid performance, his many tricks fairly mystifying the audience; and he received well-merited applause. Dolly Robson, Dr. Bodie's Protégée, brought down the house with Dr. Bodie s great song 'Heroes of the Titanic.'"

All records absolutely smashed. Rebooked to return at big increase. Also specially engaged for two weeks PALACE, GLASGOW. Returning to the City in a few weeks' time. Many thanks to Messrs. De Frece and Edelsten for offer of two weeks Olympia, Glasgow, also R. A. P. Williams', Esq., offer of two weeks Savoy, Glasgow, and Harry McKelvie, Esq., for contracts two weeks Palace, Glasgow, at the biggest price ever paid to any Vaudeville Artiste. Also many thanks to numerous friends who sent me wires of congratulation, and to J. H. Oakden, Esq., the Manager, for his great kindness and courtesy shown, and for most happy and comfortable week, also thanks to the whole of his staff in front and behind the theatre.

STILL THE HEAD OF THE VAUDEVILLE WORLD.

Only vacant dates this year are as follows:—April 14 between Northampton and Liverpool; May 5, between Liverpool and London; May 26, June 16, 23; nothing then till October 13, 20; November 10, 24; December 8, 15, 22, 29. Fast booking 1914. Terms: Shares or certainty. Only first class theatres and halls entertained. Managers in making offers please remember my expenses are over £100 weekly, travel over twenty people and four tons of baggage.

All letters addressed to—**Dr. WALFORD BODIE, M.A., C.M.**

This week—Theatre Royal, Chorley. Next week—Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

LOOK OUT FOR STARTLING ADVERTISEMENT.

Moss' Empires Ltd

Managing Director - - - Mr. FRANK ALLEN.

HEAD OFFICES:—

CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, W.C.

Telephone: 1050 & 1051 GERRARD. *[INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.]* Telegrams: "TWIGSOME, LONDON."

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Carl Lynn, Four Arconis, Hong Fong, Rudinoff, Bioscope,

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Wheeler & Berkeley, Ethel Loftus, "This is the Business," Lily Lena, George Formby, Mike S. Whallen, Wild Willie & West, Bioscope, Harry Blake.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Austin Rudd, Georgia Coons, Roland Bros., Wilson & Waring, Phil Ray, Herbert Darnley's Company, including Jay Laurier, Peter & Potts, Bioscope, Rhoda Paul, James Stewart.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"White as a Lily."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

David Paget, Will Putner, Wilkie, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Rae, Six Ceylons, Ike & Will Scott, Lil Hawthorne, Porth Choir, The Rawsons, Chas. Cardow, Herbert Rule, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Sisters Finney, Lotto, Lilo, & Otto, Little Ganty, George Mozart, Thora, Real McKays, Bioscope, Ivey Latimer, Tina Paynola.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Dick Tubb, Jessie Buckle, Sam Kelly, Leipzig, Real Ragtimers, Bioscope, Lena Kent, Robert Riley, Lecardo Bros.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Field & Lewis, Chas. Drew, Pictures.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

The Two Biltons, Harry Benyon, Pictures.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Tom Edwards, Jack Marks, Horace Hunter, Solo, Fred Barnes, Dort & Leonard, La Pia, Bioscope, Madge Clifton, Johnson & Bert.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chas. Norton, Billy Rogers, Crosland's Melody Makers, Yorke & Adams, "Loss of the Titanic," Thornton & Wagner, Bioscope, Elsie Bower, Cooper & Lait.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Howard & Harris, Three Cunards, Bioscope, Musical Howards, Karno's Company, including Albert Bruno, Jack Lorimer, Talberto & Douglas, Stella Stahl, Dion Wade.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for;—

"The Girl of My Heart."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Woody & Wells, Ben Albert, Lily Burnand, Molly Wells, Bella & Bijou McNaughtons, Fred Keeton, Eily Adair, Bioscope.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Loch & Lomond, Alf Gresham, Baker & Bunn, Pictures.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Elise Seebach, Hunter & Bob, McConnell Trio, Frances Letty, Jack Thomas, Sisters Lyndon, Karno's Company, including Tom Nelson, Hall & Moore, Bioscope.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Crystal & Saville, High Davos Troupe, Ernie Mayne, Pearl & Roth, Maggie Benson, Cooper Mitchell, Three Melbournes, Bioscope, Bert Errol.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Daisy Dormer, Rich & Rich, Phil & Nettie Peters, American Messenger Boys, Houdini, Koko, Bessie Butt, Arthur Surcliffe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Dusty Rhodes, Russell Trio, Sammy Shields, George Lashwood, Wille Bros., Rob, Ivy, & Lynn, Bioscope, Wheeler & Wilson, Edith Fink, Chass Lewis.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Louie Tracey, Rex Fox, The Whittakers, Columbia Trio, "Arms and the Girl," The Craggs, Bioscope, Fred Lincoln, Lily Langtry.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Lamore, Friend & Downing, Shirley & Ransome, Donal McDougal, Max Erard's "Silver Wedding," Robins & Collier, Stein-Esthor Troupe, 14 Rag-time Tromboniers, Bioscope, Luis Alvarez.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Four Paulastos, George Newburn, Herbert Darnley's Company, including Jack Williams, Bioscope, Rosie Sylvester, Jack Smiles, Will Van Allen, Lloyd Morgan, Park's Eton Boys.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chromo & Hamilton, John & Mae Burke, Chas. Austin & Co., Alec Kendall, Green & Wood, Bioscope, Marie Santoi, J. H. Scotland, Master Garnett.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Paulhan Team, Dorma Morgan, Stacey & Williams, Hanlon Bros., Marie Kendall, Reynolds & Donegan, Bioscope, Harlequinaders, Steve McCarthy.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Camp & Critic, Ida Barr, Harry Tate & Co., Whittaker & Hill, Bioscope, Christine Roy, Jack Warman, Four Amaranths, Great Weiland.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Ernest Shand, Bros. Miller, Cameron Quartette, Four Kemptons, Dorothy Miller, Gerald Griffin & Co.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Spiegler's Quintette, &c.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Four Elles, Archie Naish, Harry Fields, Bob & Jennie Leonard, Susie Belmore, Woodward & Page, Four Ruby Sisters.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Five Musical Tritons, Karno's Honeysuckles, Pictures, Three Its, Ellina Turner, Raie Walters, Sisters Goodman, Lillie Ward, Sol & Joel.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Six Gordons, Pictures, Zoe & Bunnie, Frank Melvin, Thomas Cullen, Walker & Bunting, Francis Rayne.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Life's Sweetest Sins."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN or MR. ERNEST WIGHTON can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen (the Managing Director) or Mr. N. Pallister (the Business Manager), otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

Providing Continuous Engagements for Artistes at the most important Variety Theatres in the London Area.

General Administrative Offices:

1, DURHAM HOUSE ST., STRAND, W.C.

Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, March 17, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ernest C. Rolls' Company, "Ragmania,"; Leslie Styles and Company, Sam Stern, The Four Braggs, Julian Mack, Rouge et Noir, Flo Irwin and Company, Sisters Montague, Susie Rea, Bowman and Morton, Lloyd and Lane, Les Gerlandos, Carl de Marest.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Formby, Anthony Ellis' Company, "Stolen Fruit"; Little Pam, Maidie Scott, Elsie Faye and Company, H. Williams and Nat Ayer, Ross and Lewis, Marie Courtenay, The Courtiers, Cockley, Hanvey and Dunlevy.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
F. M. Tallman, Henri de Vries and Company, Jake Friedman, Seven Perezoffs, Jack Lane, Daisy Stirling, Jabez Wolffe, Fitz-Allen, Ena Dayne, Les Inconnus, King and Benson, Four Vagabonds, Alexandre and Hughes, Aerial Smiths, Hanvey and Dunlevy.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
John Lawson & Co., King and Benson, Harry Wenburn, Huley and Bent, Mona Vivian, Society Quartette, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Marie Braymen, Barnard's Marionettes, Baker and Gee, Gregory Troupe, Sam Stern, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Maskelyne and Devant's "Haunted Window," J. L. Lasky & Co., Rowlands and Ford, Maidie Scott, Harry Levaine, Wilfred Burnand, Mollie Seymour, Rosie Ray, Gladys D'Mollen, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Barrett & Co., Dayton Family, James Willard & Co., Frank H. Fox, Will Gane and Another, Huley and Bent, Marie Braymen, Les Inconnus, F. V. St. Clair, Mona Vivien, Fitz-Allen, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
"Ragmania." Seven Bramusas, Rowlands and Ford, Leo Fields, Four Cronies, Ethel Brailsford, Bowman and Morton, Four Kasracs, Mollie Seymour, F. V. St. Clair, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Alexandre and Hughes, May Henderson, Rose Hayes, Lloyd and Lane, Jack Lane, Alfred Wood's Co., Nana and Nino, Geo. Ross, Lawrence Barclay, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
Geo. Abel & Co., "The Little Stowaway," Elsie Faye & Co., Harry Marlowe, Walton and Lester, Chris Baker, Four Braggs, Daisy Stirling, Three Rascals, Ernest Rees, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
John Lawson & Co., Harry Randall, Ernest Rees, Bellonini, Walton and Lester, Harry Thurston, Excelsior Troupe, Chris Baker, Millie Payne, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Jack Pleasants, John Tiller's Eight Rose Girls, Martin Roland Co., James Fawn, Foot-Gers, Fred Camplin, Rose Reys, Elsie Kerry, Les Frasettis, Lievin and Pantzer, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Harvey Boys, Sinclair and Whiteford, Fred Douglas, Doris Hunter, Larry Lewis, The Glenroy Troupe, Gwladys Soman, Helma, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR, SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN

THE BILLBOARD.

AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.

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EDWARD MARRIS' CORNER.

MUM'S THE WORD

IS A SUCCESS, THANKS.

FRED CAMPLIN Sketch Star in MUM'S THE WORD. *EASTER WEEK*— **PORTSMOUTH.**

THE 8 RAGTIME SISTERS

A charming and refined English Ragtime Act.
Music arranged by A. W. KETELBEY.
AN ABSOLUTELY ORIGINAL IDEA BEAUTIFULLY CARRIED OUT.
Booked on the Continent to open April.

FAKING THE FILM

Music by A. W. KETELBEY.
Including:
FREDDY RIGBY and LOUIS DU CANE.
The most original sketch of modern times. ONE SCREAM.
EASTER WEEK—WOLVERHAMPTON.
POSSIBLY VACANT—MARCH 31.

ETHEL WARD, HER MADCAP MAJESTY

The most beautiful sketch touring, and what a draw!
Music by A. W. KETELBEY.
VACANT—October 6 onwards, with exceptions.
MARCH 17, HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.
MARCH 24, HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Communications to the Author and Producer of above—

EDWARD MARRIS,
39, Princes Place, Princes Road, Holland Park, W.
TELEPHONE—1383 PADDINGTON.

LAWRENCE BROUGH

and his Famous Company of Comedians, and

MISS OLGA ESME,

in the immense laughing successes

CONFUSION **CONFUSION,** (Seven Artistes.) ON THE BEACH
Vacant—
March 17,
ON THE BEACH, (Seven Artistes.)
Vacant—
March 17, 24, on.
SIR FRANCIS BURNAND'S Three Act Laughing Success,
THE LADY OF OSTEND, (Twelve Artistes.)
Available once or twice nightly.
(Vaudeville or Theatre.)
Vacant—
March 17, 24, on.
Plays 1¾ to 2¼ hours.

For Vacant Dates,

Will Collins or Will Sley.

CHARLES W. & JOHN R. POOLE'S PRODUCTION.

THE LOSS OF THE TITANIC

(The Immortal Tale of Simple Heroism.)

March 17, COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Sole Agent, HARRY BURNS.

A REMARKABLE SUCCESS!

BARNETT LANDO,

England's representative Hebrew Delineator in his characteristic Comedy Study

ONE OF US.

THREE PEOPLE. FOURTEEN MINUTES.

"ERA" PRODUCTION NOTICE,
March 8, 1913.

As a critic to whose lot it fa'ls to witness the production of innumerable music hall sketches during the course of the year, the writer is doubtful if he has ever seen a production so nearly approaching his ideal of a vaudeville sketch as Mr. Barnett Lando's little comedy. Lasting only fourteen minutes, it is as full of humorous situations as many pieces four times as long. Played with unusual briskness—and therein lies much of its success—"One of Us" resolutely forbids a straight face.

March 17, EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.
Vacant March 24, April 7 and 14.

All communications—
BARNETT LANDO, 15a, Saltoun Rd., Brixton, S.W.

M. H. A. R. A.

and

VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND,
18, CHARING CROSS-ROAD, W.C.

NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—Costello and Freeman, the Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Montes and Welma, Retford and Walsh, J. W. Knowles, Madge Northcote, Jack and Ted Lenford, Videos, and Alice Wyatt. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

NEXT FRIDAY
being
GOOD FRIDAY

PLEASE POST ONE DAY EARLIER THAN USUAL.

All Advertisements intended for our next issue (March 22) should reach this office not later than 11 a.m. Thursday, March 20.

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, W.C.

TELEGRAMS: OSWASTOLL, WESTRAND, LONDON. TELEPHONE: GERRARD 7545 (2 lines).

NEW STOLL OFFICES

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Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MARCH 17, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Nancy Price & Co. in "The Borstal Boy," Violet Vanbrugh in "The Woman in the Case," Rinaldo, Five Petleys, Kinemacolor, Alberta Flahey, Helena Frederick, Haley's Juveniles, The McLeans, G. P. Huntley and Harry Grattan in "Curios," James A. Watts, Carlisle and Wellmon.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"My Sweetheart," Selection, Lydia and Amelys, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber, Ted Shephard.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Jen Latona, Rinaldo, Coram, The Crisps, Charles Stevens, Doring's Pigeons, Rene Ralph, Bioscope, Potter and Hartwell, Helena Millais and Co. in "Silver Creek."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Harry Fragson, Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, Albert Letine, Three Cape Girls, Kara, Bioscope, Millie and Arthur, Gus Elen, Edith Chantler, Nora Delaney.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Alfred Lester, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Harry Weldon, The Great Roland, Kitty Colyer, O'Gust, Fred Durant, Minnie Mace, Bioscope, France and Stewart. Matinees (Tuesday excepted) and 3 performances Good Friday for Les Miserables.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Six Bros. Luck, Three Collegians, Mabel Sinclair, Jack Shires, Devon and Earle, Carl Howard, Bioscope, J. W. Rickaby, Okabe Family. Matinees and 3 performances on Good Friday for Les Miserables.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fred Kitchen and Co. in "Bungle's Luck," Jimmy Godden, Signor Giovanni Chiti, Florence Esdaile, Bioscope, Morton and Elliott, Ferry Corwey.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Eight Elliott Savonas, Harry Leybourne, Conway George, Bioscope, Tom Costello, Smite and Smote, Elsie Green, Jenny Castelle, Hayman and Franklyn.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Anna Eva Fay, Queenie Leighton, Arthur Woodville, Harry Moore, Bert Gilbert, Ina Hill, John Weil, Bioscope, Tom Foy and Co. in "The First of April.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"In the Balkans," Dexter, Gintaro, Frank and Vesta, Wullie Walker, Lily Leonhard, Bioscope, Beryl Mercer and Co., Eadie and Ramsden.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Zona Vevey, Ruby Roya, Carter Livesey and Co. in "An Amateur Anarchist," Niagara and Falls, Hurl and Ford, Harry Bedford, Cornalla and Eddie, Les Videos, Rosie Archer, Bioscope.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

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The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester." Telephone: 5928 & 5929 City Manchester

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the hours of 11 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—Herbert Shelley, Ruby Maybutt, Jaap Van Laren, Tim Carlisle, Three O'Connor Girls, Vedras, Oliver Conroy, Romanys, Le Sines, Six Aerop'ane Girls, **2.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre.—Pictures, &c., **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY—Hippodrome. — Howard and Collinson Trio, Pictures, Hicks and Yorke, Greta Wray, Lewis's Mannikins. **2.**

ECCLES—Crown Theatre.—Musical Bentleys, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—"Leah Kleschna." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Two Bobs, Jack Sheville, Fred Wilton, Two Britons, Bernard, Ada Fawn, Claude M. Roode. **2.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre.—"An Indian Girl's Devotion." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Lodge-Percy, Henrietta Schrier and Repertoire Co. **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—"Through Death Valley." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—"A Lad's Love." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Cecilia Dare and Repertoire Co. **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Percy Honri, Bert Rayburn, Angers and Escott, Pictures, Ketos, Four Tressilians, Archie O'Neil, Correze and Keith, Diana Hope and Monte Bayley, Carpatii Bros. **11.**

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Lottie Lennox, Milly and Gordon Trio, Three Merry Wags, Horace White, Three Piquays, Magini, Ernest Krake & Co., &c. **2.**

PRESTON — Palace Theatre.—"A Mother's Love." **11.**

SALE HAYMARKET Theatre — Mrs. Frank ngaged. Private add., 7, Kilburn-priory, N.W. Matin

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New Songs and Dresses on her return to town.

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ON TOUR.
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MISS LOUIE TRACY.
The Dapper Dandy Boy.
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March 17, PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Mr. Tom Claxton.

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The World's Greatest Chorus Singer.
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Ten Songs nightly.
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Enormous Success, Stoll Tour.
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A brilliant success in "Il Trovatore," at the Dome, Brighton, this week. April 6, "The Creation," Brighton Philharmonic Society.
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36 Absolutely New Dresses worn this week! Rather a record!! The talk of the town!!! "The woman with the figure, who knows how to wear her gowns!!!!" Who says this? The Management and the Press!!!!!
Next week, STOLL'S, BRISTOL.

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And what a Hit! See what the Press say.
PEGGY PRYDE, fresh and bright as ever in her monologue types of London characters, which created roars of laughter. She kept the audience in a continual state of merriment and scored an enormous hit.—"Bristol Times."

One of the most interesting turns is that of PEGGY PRYDE in a realistic monologue, Types of London Characters, in the course of which she reminded one of that artiste's mother, JENNY HILL, the Vital Spark, and whose Special Talent MISS PRYDE has undoubtedly inherited.
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"Bristol Press," March 11.

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One Laugh from Start to Finish.
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"THE BILLPOSTER."
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Enormous success of his two new songs, "Hullo! Susie Green," and "I've had my fortune told."
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HORACE WHEATLEY.
Continued success of "Old knee breeches," "D-o-u-g-h-e-r-t-y," "Mac, my old pal, Mac," "When I met you at the fair in Tipperary."
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"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
Written by Wal Pink.
Music by J. S. Baker.
Another Screaming Success.

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"Poor old Rag-time's gone to rest."
"Poor old Rag-time's gone to rest."
"Poor old Rag-time's gone to rest."
"Poor old Rag-time's gone to rest."
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Happy Good Friday to all.

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The ever-welcome Patter Comedian and Pantomimist.
Without doubt the Laughing Hit of every programme.
Not only this week, but every week alike.
Everybody delighted with his new show.
His Latest Hits,
"POOR WEAK WOMAN."
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"SKIN AND BONE."
Note.—Everything free from vulgarity.
Proprietors and Managers can depend upon a Good, Clean, and Funny Entertainment.
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Next week, HIPPO., DEVONPORT.
All letters to the above.

FRED BARNES,
The New Star, in his songs, "Fiddle-dee-dee," "Rag-time violin," "Girl in Havana," &c.
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JOCK McKAY.
The Special Scotch Humorist.
EMPIRE, SHOREDITCH.
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Agents, G. and F. Peel.

THE CAT KING.
LEONI CLARKE'S
Royal Comedy Animal Act.
One long laugh from start to finish.
Always something new.
Vacant, March 24, April 14, 21.
Share or certainty.
This week, Hippo., Featherstone, Yorks.
Next, HIPPO., CLITHEROE, LANCS.
Notice to Proprietors and Managers.—When making offers for sharing terms please state size of stage, seating capacity, and prices of admission.

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